

UC-NRLF



B 4 071 987

LIBRARY

OF THE

University of California.

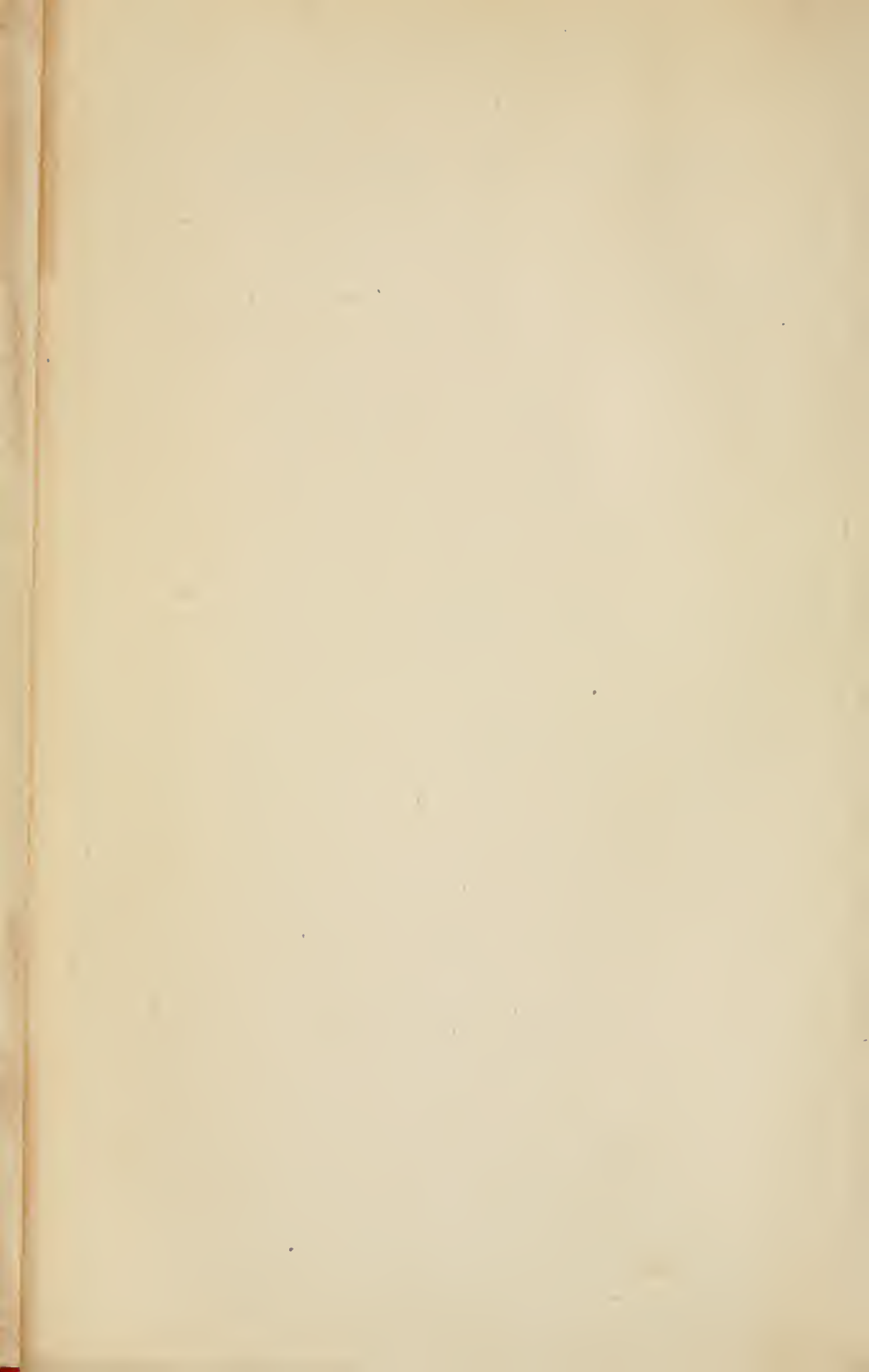
No. 3575

Division

Range

Shelf

Received Apr. 24, 1872



A
HANDBOOK FOR TRAVELLERS
IN
NORTH WALES.

THIRD EDITION.

WITH A TRAVELLING MAP.

LIBRARY
UNIVERSITY OF
CALIFORNIA.

LONDON:
JOHN MURRAY, ALBEMARLE STREET.
1868.

The right of Translation is reserved.

2A735
M.K.

P R E F A C E.

WITHIN the last few years both portions of the Principality have been completely metamorphosed, as far as travelling arrangements, by the completion of many new lines of railway, and the consequent abandonment of many of the coaching routes.

The Editor has endeavoured, by personal visits and research, to make this Handbook as reliable as possible. He begs that any inaccuracies or misstatements which may occur may be communicated to him to care of Mr. Murray, 50, Albemarle Street.

1868.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
INTRODUCTION	V

ROUTES.

* * The names of places are printed in *italics* only in those routes where the *places* are described.

ROUTE	PAGE	ROUTE	PAGE
1. <i>Shrewsbury</i> to <i>Chester</i> , by <i>Ruabon</i> and <i>Wrexham</i> —Great Western Railway . .	2	16. <i>Pwllheli</i> to <i>Bardsey Island</i> , by <i>Nevin</i> and <i>Aberdaron</i> . .	105
2. <i>Whittington Junc.</i> to <i>Whitchurch Junc.</i> , by <i>Ellesmere</i> —Rail	16	17. <i>Caernarvon</i> to <i>Capel Curig</i> , by <i>Llanberis</i> and <i>Penygwryd</i> —Ascent of <i>Snowdon</i> . . .	108
3. <i>Ruabon Junc.</i> to <i>Dolgelley</i> , by <i>Llangollen</i> , <i>Corwen</i> , and <i>Bala</i> —Rail and Coach . .	17	18. <i>Penygwryd</i> to <i>Beddgelert</i> , by <i>Nant Gwynant</i>	118
4. <i>Chester</i> to <i>Bangor</i> , by <i>Flint</i> , <i>Abergele</i> , and <i>Conway</i> —Rail . .	27	19. <i>Caernarvon</i> to <i>Tanybwelch</i> , by <i>Beddgelert</i> , <i>Tremadoc</i> , and <i>Porthmadoc</i>	120
5. <i>Abergele</i> to <i>Denbigh</i> , by <i>Bettws</i> and <i>Llanfair Talhaiarn</i> —Pedestrian . . .	48	20. <i>Porthmadoc</i> to <i>Ffestiniog Quarries</i> , by Rail— <i>Moelwyn</i> . . .	126
6. <i>Conway</i> to <i>Llandudno</i> and the <i>Orme's Head</i>	49	21. <i>Tanybwelch</i> to <i>Oswestry</i> , by <i>Ffestiniog</i> , <i>Bala</i> , and <i>Llanrhaiadr</i>	128
7. <i>Bangor</i> to <i>Holyhead</i> , by <i>Menai Bridge</i> —Rail	51	22. <i>Tanybwelch</i> to <i>Machynlleth</i> , by <i>Maentwrog</i> , <i>Truwsfynydd</i> , and <i>Dolgelley</i> — <i>Cader Idris</i> . .	133
8. <i>Menai Bridge</i> to <i>Beaumaris</i> , <i>Penmon</i> , and <i>Amlwch</i> , by <i>E. Coast of Anglesea</i>	64	23. <i>Dolgelley</i> to <i>Dinas Mowddroc</i> by Road, and to <i>Cemmaes Road Junc.</i> by Rail . . .	141
9. <i>Gaerwen Junc.</i> to <i>Amlwch</i> , by <i>Anglesea Central Railway</i> . .	70	24. <i>Pwllheli</i> to <i>Dolgelley</i> , by <i>Porthmadoc</i> , <i>Harlech</i> , and <i>Bar-mouth</i> —Rail	143
10. <i>Chester</i> to <i>Ruthin</i> , by <i>Mold</i> —Rail and Coach	73	25. <i>Dolgelley</i> to <i>Machynlleth</i> , by <i>Towyn</i> and <i>Aberdorey</i> —Rail; on to <i>Llanidloes</i> by Road. .	150
11. <i>Corwen</i> to <i>Rhyl</i> , by <i>Ruthin</i> , <i>Denbigh</i> , and <i>St. Asaph</i> . . .	77	26. <i>Oswestry</i> to <i>Machynlleth</i> , by <i>Llanfair</i> and <i>Mallwyd</i> . . .	155
12. <i>Conway</i> to <i>Bangor</i> , by <i>Llan-rurst</i> , <i>Bettws-y-coed</i> , and <i>Capel Curig</i> —Rail and Coach .	85	27. <i>Oswestry</i> to <i>Llanidloes</i> , by <i>Welshpool</i> (<i>Llanfyllin</i>) and <i>Newtown</i> —Rail; and on to <i>Aberystwith</i> by Road. . .	159
13. <i>Bettws-y-coed</i> to <i>Corwen</i> , by <i>Pentrevoelas</i>	95	28. <i>Shrewsbury</i> to <i>Aberystwith</i> , by <i>Welshpool</i> , <i>Newtown</i> , and <i>Machynlleth</i> —Rail . . .	167
14. <i>Bangor</i> to <i>Pwllheli</i> , by <i>Caernarvon</i> —Rail	96		
15. <i>Caernarvon</i> to <i>Pwllheli</i> , by <i>Clynnog</i> —Road.	102		
INDEX	172		

INTRODUCTION.

	PAGE
I. PHYSICAL FEATURES OF NORTH WALES	v
II. GEOLOGY	xi
III. COMMERCE AND MANUFACTURES	xvii
IV. ANTIQUARIAN VIEW	xix
V. TRAVELLING VIEW	xxiv
VI. GLOSSARY OF WELSH WORDS	xxvii
VII. POINTS OF INTEREST FOR THE GEOLOGIST	xxviii
VIII. COMPARATIVE HEIGHTS OF MOUNTAINS	xxix
IX. CHIEF PLACES OF INTEREST	xxix
X. SKELETON ROUTES	xxxiii

I. PHYSICAL FEATURES.

NORTH WALES, consisting of the counties of Flint, Denbigh, Caernarvon, the isle of Anglesea, Merioneth, and Montgomery, presents varied attractions to the visitor, though none so powerful as the grand features of nature—the rivers, the mountains, and the sea. In Wales he may recruit himself in the tranquillity of the green valleys and salmon-haunted streams, by the waves that break under Penmaen Mawr, or among the sheep-bells on the bare hill-side, on moorland solitudes so wild that a passing crow makes an incident in the landscape, on the platform of Cader Idris, or where the Dee cleaves its separate way through the depths of Bala. He will also find, if he pleases, many things capable of attracting and employing serious inquiry, and none more so than the apparently barren hills themselves, teeming with mineral riches and with productions of varied use, which increasing railway facilities make available for all parts of England. For examining the physical features of North Wales it will be best to divide it into 2 great portions, lying respectively N. and S. of an imaginary line drawn from Porthmadoc to Llangollen through Bala and Corwen, comprising the counties of Anglesea, Caernarvon, Denbigh, and Flint in the N. section, with Merioneth and Montgomery to the S.

A. The former may be roughly subdivided into 2 large groups, lying E. and W. of the Conway river.

1. Commencing from the river Dee, near Hawarden, in Flintshire, we find a tract of high ground, running parallel with and overlooking the estuary. This tract, which has its highest points about Halkin mountain and Gwaunysgaer, runs in a general direction from N.W. to S.E., and is remarkable for its rich and valuable mineral treasures; to the W. of this broken region, and separated from it by the valley along

which runs the Mold and Denbigh road, rises the Clwydian range, a magnificent and continuous line of conical hills separating the vale of Clwyd on the E. from the adjacent county. They approach the sea near Dyserth and Rhuddlan, and run nearly due S. to Llanarmon in Yale—that district which, according to the poet Churchyard,

“Hath hilles and mountaynes hye,
Small valleys there, save where the brookes do run.”

The principal eminence in this range is Moel Famman (1845 ft.). S. of Llandegla the uniformity of the chain is broken, and an irregular block of mountain, named Cyn-y-brain (1857 ft.), presenting many fine features, fills up the gap between Wrexham and Llangollen. The range of hills at Minera and the picturesque escarpments of the Eglwyseg rocks at Llangollen are in reality the outcrops of this mass of limestone. The rivers of the N.E. group are few. On the E. coast are the Holywell and Wepre brooks, while the circuitous Alyn, rising in the pretty valleys of Yale, meanders through the broken uplands of Flintshire, and finally, “to Dee most inly deere,” joins that river near Gresford.

2. The second of the N.E. group may be generally stated as occupying the country between the Clwyd, the Conway, and the Dee as far as Bala. Although comparatively little visited, it contains scenery of a romantic character, especially towards the coast. Here it is marked by abrupt escarpments of mountain limestone, such as the Great and Little Orme's Head and the Llysfaen mountain. To these succeeds a large tract of well-wooded region, abounding in lovely dells, the watercourses of the Elwy, Aled, and Alwen—the 2 first of which find their way into the Clwyd, the latter into the Dee. All of them take their rise in the Mynydd Hiraethrog, a long desolate range to the S. of the more fertile district, which, with its outliers, occupies a large part of Denbighshire. Bronbanog (1572 ft.) and Moel Eithin (1660 ft.) are the highest points. The dreary slopes on the S. are crossed by the Great Holyhead road between Bettws-y-Coed, Pentrevoelas, and Corwen. Between them and the imaginary line from Ffestiniog to Bala is another irregular group, filling up the space between the source of the Conway and that portion of the Dee which runs through the vale of Edeyrnion. Of this group Carnedd-y-Filiast (2127 ft.) and Moel-y-Darail (1934 ft.) are the loftiest heights, and give birth to the Geirw and a few smaller streams flowing into the Dee. On the eastern side of the Hiraethrog the Clwyd takes its rise, and, after a short circuitous route, flows steadily, though it must be confessed rather sluggishly, to the N., past Ruthin, Denbigh, and St. Asaph, to join the sea at Rhyl. “Its banks are deep cuts in the deposited stratum of rich earth, with rare breaks down to fords or watering-places. Three days' rain up the valley will not bring the water to the brink of these banks, or increase the depth of the river; but a 4th wet day spreads it over acres of meadow, and a 5th marks the whole vale with a broad band of silver. The Elwy, on the other hand, has scarcely an acre of meadow to flood, but it becomes a torrent with a few hours' rain, and roars along its stony bed, breaking out here and there, but nowhere spreading far, even if charged with a week of water-spout.”—*Cathrall*.

The southern boundary of the N.E. division is the valley of the Dee, which, issuing from the lake of Bala, flows with "silver clere" tide through the lovely vale of Edeyrnion to Corwen, and on by Llangollen and Overton into the broad alluvial plains of Cheshire.

B. The north-western district is, with the exception of some isolated heights in Anglesea, almost entirely included in the county of Caernarvon, and embraces the finest of all Welsh scenery, as offered in the ranges of Snowdonia, called by some the Arvonian Alps. Its eastern boundary is the river Conway, which, rising in the desolate and high table-lands of Mochmunt, soon flows due N. past Bettws-y-Coed and Llanrwst to Conway. For the first 8 or 10 m. of its course the boundary of this mountain region is more imaginary than real, as at this corner the connection between the N.W., N.E., and S.E. districts is nearly unbroken, although on travelling further westward we find that the division is again well marked between the N. and S. by the valley of the Dwyryd and the wide estuary of the Traethmawr. As 7-10ths of this district is the locale which attracts all tourists, it is better to subdivide it into groups formed by the principal masses of mountain, which are characterised by rugged precipitous escarpments and wild passes, instead of the wooded valleys and heathery slopes that mark the former district.

1. Travelling westward, the tourist first arrives at a triangular block of mountain, formed by Carnedd Dafydd (3427 ft.) and Llewelyn (3469 ft.), which on the N. spread their wide shoulders to the coast at Aber, ending in the mighty cliffs of Penmaen Mawr. From their recesses the Afon Porthllwyd, Afon Ddu, Llugwy, and some smaller streams issue to join the Conway, which forms the boundary on the E. Southwards they are suddenly brought up by the wild and deeply-cut pass of Nantffrancon. The principal lakes of this group are Llyniau Dulyn, Melynlyn, Crafnant, Cwllid, Geirionydd, Llugwy, Ogwen, with others of less size.

2. Immediately opposite and to the S. of this group is a far more precipitous and savage range, dividing it from Snowdon. This is the Glyder Vawr (3300 ft.), the Glyder Vach (3100 ft.), and the Trifaen (3000 ft.), which are prolonged to the N. and N.W. by the side of Llanberis lakes, and on the W. side of Nantffrancon. It is in this latter portion that the great Penrhyn slate-quarries are situated. The gloomy character of this group is well supported by its 3 boundary valleys, viz. Nantffrancon, Nantgwryd, and Pass of Llanberis.

3. Directly opposite and separated only by this pass rises the great Snowdon group, symmetrically placed almost in the centre of Caernarvonshire. As it is fully described in Rte. 17, a very brief mention is all that is here necessary. Its glories have ever been a fertile theme with all the writers and poets of N. Wales:—

"For Snowdon, a hill, imperiall in his seat,
Is, from his mighty foote unto his head, so greate,
That were his Wales distrest, or of his helpe had neede,
Hee all her flocks and heards for many months coulde feede."

Drayton's Polyolbion.

From the centre of the group Moel-y-Wyddfa rises in a sharp peak to the height of 3571 ft., sending off its subordinate ridges of Moel Eilio (2870 ft.) and Moel Cynghorion on the N.E., Llethog and Yr Aran (2473 ft.) on the W., and Lliwedd on the S.E.—the whole forming a triangular series, of which the base is Nant Gwynant, and the sides the Pass of Llanberis and the valleys of the Gwrfai and Colwyn respectively. It is in this Alpine district that the most beautiful lakes are met with—Llyn Gwynant and Llyn Dinas, Llyn Cwellyn, Llyn-y-Gader, Llyn Llydaw, and the lakes of Llanberis. Nant Gwynant and the Glaslyn river cut off this range from

4. The S.E. district, which may in some sense be considered a continuation of it. Here we have the great bulwark of Moel Siabod (2870 ft.), which is prolonged above the valley of the Lledr into an irregular though well-marked line of hills, terminated on the S. by the volcanic-looking peak of Cynicht (2372), and the more rugged Moelwyn (2566), in the eastern spurs of which mountain we find the locale of the large Ffestiniog slate-quarries. Still further, this range is again finely developed in the Manods and the Michnant hills, which give birth to the Conway.

5. Immediately to the W. of Snowdon, and separated only by the valley of the Gwrfai, is another precipitous range, commencing on the Caernarvon side of Llyn Cwellyn, in the magnificent escarpment of Craig Cwm Bychan and Mynydd Mawr (2300 ft.), and thence running S. to Drws-y-coed, where a deep pass runs up the Llyffni valley to the Nantlle lakes, and on to the head of the Colwyn. The continuity is carried southward by Mynydd Craig Goch (2358), and Moel Hebog (2850), which rises immediately from behind Beddgelert. From this point the mountains gradually decline in height until they finally end in the picturesque line of rocks overhanging Tremadoc.

6. The remaining hills of the promontory of Llyn are comparatively isolated, though presenting as fine scenic effects as any of the preceding. From Clynnog a series of round-topped eminences run S. towards Pwllheli. They are Gyrn Goch (1823 ft.), Bwleth Mawr (1673), and Moel Penllechog. Separated from them by the pass of Llanellhaearn are the singular heights of Yr Eifl (1886), which, for their magnificent rock scenery and præhistoric remains, are worthy of being visited oftener than they are. Rising directly above Nevin is Carn Boduan, and a little to the S. the still higher Carn Madryn (1205), both of which, from their comparative isolation, present splendid panoramic views of the adjacent country. These are the highest points in Llyn, although the general character of the promontory is that of elevated table-land, arising at Mynydd Rhiw to 1113 ft., and terminated all round the coast by tempest-riven rocks and precipices.

7. The only remaining portion of this division is Anglesea, which may be also described as a vast sheet of very uninteresting table-land, relieved here and there by rocky patches of mountain; consequently Anglesea is not a beautiful county, except in some few favoured spots. The most important hills lie in the neighbourhood of Red Wharf Bay

and the Parys Mountain, near Amlwch, which appears, especially in distant views, of greater height than it really is, from the general uniformity of the surface. The W. coast of Anglesea, which is seldom or never visited, contains coast scenery of a high order. At the extreme point of the island is the Holyhead Mountain, important both in a picturesque as well as a commercial point of view.

C. The S.W. division may be bounded by the road from Ffestiniog to Bala on the N., and by that from Bala to Dinas Mowddwy and Machynlleth on the E. and S.E.

1. The most prominent group commences at Maentwrog and runs due S. past Harlech to Barmouth, parallel with and close to the sea-coast. Craig-dwrg (2100 ft.), Rhinog Vawr (2463) and Vach, Diphwys (2412), and Llawlech, are the principal heights, which, rising ruggedly above their fellows, impart considerable grandeur to this range. The exploring tourist will find in the recesses of these mountains some of the finest scenery in the country, particularly in Glyn Artro and Cwm Bychan. With the exception of the Artro, scarce any river flows from the W. sides; but the opposite slopes, not so broken in character, give birth to the Eden and Camlan rivers, which, soon uniting with the Cain and Mawddach, flow towards Dolgelley through a valley remarkable for its rich beauty and the number of its waterfalls.

2. These two latter rivers rise in an irregular and confused mass of mountains, which, although of no great height on the W., gradually increase in size until they reach the watersheds of the Dee and the Wnion. Conspicuous in the southern portion of this district are Rho-ballt (2469 ft.) and Benglog (1844). As we travel northwards towards Bala we find the same group becoming more wild and lofty until it reaches its culminating point in the Arenig Vawr (2809) and the Arenig Vach, which form some of the most striking features in Merionethshire scenery. From thence as a central point several streams, though none of any size, flow in different directions: the Cynfael and the Dwyryd to the W., the Cain to the S., the Lliw and the Tryweryn toward the lake of Bala; and we may also include the Conway to the N., although it belongs more particularly to the foregoing divisions.

3. To the W. of this group, and separated only by the narrow ravines of the Dee and Wnion, rise majestically Aran Mowddwy (2955 ft.) and Aran Benllyn, a continuation of the same mountain, which, commencing in narrow spurs at the S. of Bala Lake, soon becomes one of the most savage of Welsh mountains, as it overhangs the valley of the Dyfi, in which Dinas Mowddwy and Mallwyd are situated. To the S. of the former place they again decline in importance as they approach Machynlleth, but to the W. they throw out a lofty range following the valley of the Cowarch, and soon uniting with

4. The Cader Idris mountain, which, like Snowdon, constitutes a group in itself. This glorious giant amongst hills takes a curious zigzag course to the S.W., and is characterised by the very limited extent of plateau at the summit and the fearful wall of precipices which it presents

for the greater part of its course. It has 3 principal points, of which the Cader par excellence attains the height of 2914 ft.; so that this celebrated mountain does not found its pretensions so much on its height, which is exceeded by 7 others in N. Wales, as on its singular and unique position, form, and character. Towards the S.W. it throws out a series of broad wild hills to the coast at Llwyngwrl and Llanegryn; but to the S., after passing the deep vale of the Dysynni, we find again a very lofty chain which fills up the whole area to the Dyfi and Machynlleth. On the slopes of Taren-y-gesail (2224 ft.) and Mount Faden (1864) are the important slate-quarries of Corris. Towards Towyn and Aberdovey these hills gradually sink into low ranges covered with woodland.

D. The grand feature of the S.E. division is the Berwyn mountains, which commence near Llangollen, and, winding to the S.W. past Corwen, Llandrillo, and Bala Lake, may be considered as terminating at the Pass of Bwlch-y-groes. But as the road that runs up the pass is some 1200 ft. high, they may with more propriety be said to join the chain of the Arans. The character of these mountains is essentially different from most of those that have been hitherto discussed: instead of the lofty peak and savage precipice, we have a more uniform line, with rounded shoulders breaking off on each side and overlooking pastoral glens. Nevertheless there are some very fine and rugged cliffs on the S.E. side above Llanrhadr which equal anything in the country. The principal heights in this range are Moel Fera (2050 ft.), Cader Ferwyn or Berwyn (2715), Cader Fronwen (2563), and Trim-y-Sarn (2027). With the exception of the Hirnant, but few rivers are given off on the N.; but on the S. the Tanat, the Vyrnwy, and the Banw soon become important streams, and water a large extent of rich farming country. In fact, the whole of the luxuriant champaign district as far as Welshpool, as well as the bleaker hills towards Newtown, may be regarded as connected with the great chain of the Berwyns.

2. The valley of the Severn at once cuts off this district on the N. from the Breidden hills (1199 ft.), that rise sharply up from out of the rich alluvial plains, and also from the Long Mountain (1330), which we may regard as the Welsh outskirts of a range of mountains occupying the borders of Montgomeryshire, Shropshire, and Radnorshire, in which latter county, near Newtown, they take the name of the Kerry Hills, and are prolonged E. to Bishop's Castle, S.W. to Llanidloes, and S. towards Builth.

3. The district to the W. of Llanidloes is entirely occupied by the unshapely mass of Plinlymmon, which, though properly a Cardiganshire mountain, enters sufficiently into N. Wales to influence some of its physical features very considerably. It is hard to say where to put a limit to the offshoots of Plinlymmon, though the valleys of the Clywedog and the Tarannon will probably serve best for the lines of demarcation. All the country between Machynlleth and Aberystwith, Llanidloes and Llangurig, is occupied by it; and from the centre of it, indeed so near together that a single walk may embrace them all, flow the Rheidol,

Severn, Wye, and Llyffnant. In this résumé of the Physical Geography of N. Wales there are, of course, numberless minor ranges and isolated hills, which it would be tedious to mention, but which will be found in detail under their respective routes.

II. GEOLOGY.

The labours of Sedgwick, Murchison, and after them of the Geological Survey, have correlated and brought into connection the apparently confused geology of North Wales. Commencing with the uppermost strata, we find:—

A. The *Trias*, or *New Red Sandstone*, for the whole distance between Shrewsbury and Chester, skirting the N. Welsh coal-field in the neighbourhood of Ellesmere, Oswestry, Holt, and Wrexham. It in fact constitutes the most westerly portion of the great belt of triassic strata that runs from Liverpool and the fertile plains of Cheshire into Worcestershire and the S. It is also seen in the vale of Clwyd, commencing at a point between Ruthin and Llandegla, and running up to Rhyl, when it extends each way along the coast at the foot of the hills of Dyserth and Abergele. The trias is separated from the coal-field by

B. *Permian beds*, which skirt the coal-measures on the E. between Oswestry and Wrexham, as well as the northern border of the Shrewsbury field nearly as far as the Breidden hills. They may be studied on the banks of the Dee, near Overton.

C. The *Coal-measures* extend in a strip of no great breadth from a little to the S. of Oswestry to the mouth of the estuary of the Dee in Flintshire, and are overlaid on the E. by Permian and new red sandstone, while on the W. they repose conformably on millstone grit and carboniferous limestone. In consequence of a great fault and upheaval of the last-mentioned rocks, there is a separation of the coal-field to the N. of the river Alyn into the Denbighshire and Flintshire fields.

a. The former is about 18 m. in length and 4 in breadth, and may be divided into 3 series of nearly 3000 ft. in thickness. The upper series is comparatively worthless, being composed of sandstones, with a few thin beds of coal. The lower series, though of more value, is but little worked; but the middle beds, about 800 ft. thick, comprise all the valuable coals. There are 7 principal seams, of which the Two-yard, Brassy, and Main coals are respectively 5 ft., 5 ft., and 6 ft. thick. The commercial importance of these beds will be alluded to in the sequel. So far as yet studied, the fossil remains of the N. Welsh field seem to resemble those of the S. Welsh and Lancashire fields, in its fish, such as *Rhizodus*, *Cælacanthus*, and *Palæoniscus*, together with the bivalved *Anthracosian* shells, while, as in them, the lower beds are full of marine remains, as *Aviculopecten* and *Goniatites*, &c.

b. The Flintshire fields are neither so extensive nor so productive ; but, geologically speaking, they are interesting, as evidently forming part of the Lancashire measures, the intervening portion being covered over by the new red sandstone. The principal coal-seams, 6 in number, correspond pretty nearly with those of Denbighshire, although they are somewhat thicker. The Two-yard coal is here represented by the Holling vein, 6 ft. 6 in.

c. The Anglesea coal-field is a very thin belt, stretching for 9 m. from near the Holland Arms inn to Maldraeth Bay. The measures are overlaid unconformably by Permian beds, and repose on millstone grit and mountain limestone, which in their turn rest on crystalline or metamorphic schists. "The existence of this field is entirely due to an enormous fault, having at one point a downthrow on the N.W. of 2300 ft."—*Hull*. The coal-measures, with their accompanying sandstones, are 1309 ft. thick, and the seams themselves are 8 in number, ranging in thickness from 2 to 7 ft., the uppermost, or "Glopux" coal, attaining to 9 ft.

d. There are two very small patches of coal-measures, one on each bank of the Menai, near Caernarvon.

D. The *Millstone Grit* underlies the Denbigh and Flint fields on the W., constituting the broken uplands near Minera, Mold, Flint, and Holywell. The same occurs in the Anglesea field. It is succeeded by

E. The *Mountain Limestone*, to which a great portion of the picturesque scenery in Denbighshire is owing. A tract of considerable breadth commences on the N. coast of Flintshire, near Dyserth, and accompanies the coal-measures and grit, which it underlies, as far as Llandegla. Southwards of that point it becomes narrower as it curves round to the E. in the Eglwyseg and Trevor rocks. Although there is here an hiatus, yet the limestone again appears in a still narrower band, and runs past Oswestry to Llanymynach, where it forms the beautiful escarpment of Llanymynach hill. Reverting again to Dyserth on the N. coast, we find that the Clwydian range of hills is formed of mountain limestone, which, turning sharp round to the S. of Ruthin, is found occupying the hills on the western or opposite side of the valley. Between Denbigh and S. Asaph they are strikingly developed in the Cefn rocks, and are thence carried northwards to Abergele and Colwyn, finally ending in the massive promontories of the Great and Little Orme's Heads. The district immediately between the Clwyd hills and the limestone of the Mold district is occupied by a narrow prolongation of Wenlock shale. Although separated by the bay of Beaumaris, there is an evident continuation of the limestone of the Llandudno promontory with that of Red Wharf Bay in the N.E. point of Anglesea. It is also observed forming a prominent belt on either side the Menai Straits on the E. from Bangor to a little below Port Dinorwig, and on the W. from Menai Bridge to Caernarvon. It is once more seen in Anglesea occupying a broad belt on the coast at Llanallgo and Moelfre Bay, from whence it runs S., gradually diminishing as it reaches and

accompanies the coal-measures described before. Close to it, on the western border, is a thin strip of

F. *Old Red Sandstone*, almost the only trace of it in N. Wales, which in this respect affords a marked contrast to S. Wales, where the old red is so largely developed.

G. The *Upper Silurian* is observable over large areas in the counties of Denbigh and Montgomery.

1. The Ludlow Rocks are only visible in the strata of the Long Mountain, near Welshpool, and on the southern border of Montgomeryshire, in the Kerry Hills. From thence they cover a wide district extending to Radnor, Hay, and Builth.

2. The Wenlock shale ranges from Conway and Abergele, on the N. coast of Denbighshire, over an irregularly-shaped area, to Llangollen. The picturesque country of the Elwy, Aled, and Alwen, lying between Llanrwst and Denbigh is of this formation, which near Llandegla sends up northward a thinner prolongation, lying unconformably between the carboniferous rocks of the Clwydian hills and those of Flintshire. It thus surrounds the vale of Clwyd like the rim of a basin. It is seen in large patches between Llanfyllin and the Banw river, and again between Llanfair, Guilsfield, and Welshpool on the N., and Montgomery, Newtown, and Bishop's Castle on the S., and on the eastern side of the Severn running up and surrounding the Ludlow rocks of the Long Mountain, until suddenly brought up by the Shrewsbury coal-field. S. of Newtown a thin prolongation is carried on towards Radnor Forest and Llandrindod Wells. It is remarkable that in all this district there are no bands of Wenlock limestone.

3. Subordinate to these rocks and on their western border is a belt of conglomerates and grits, known as Denbigh grits, which follows closely the valley of the Conway, becoming more extended in the neighbourhood of Cerrig-y-druidion. S. of Corwen, where the Wenlock shale disappears, the Upper Silurian rocks are still represented by these grits, which connect the shales of Denbighshire and Montgomeryshire, and accompany them all the way southwards to Newtown and Radnorshire, themselves being underlaid by the Caradoc or Bala beds. The Denbigh grits are usually considered to be the sandy base of the Wenlock formation, and consequently of the Upper Silurian series.

4. Next below come the Tarannon shales, which occupy an intermediate space between the Pentamerus or Llandovery rocks and the Upper Silurian, although some geologists differ as to which class they ought to belong. "They are of a hard, slaty character, in some places so pale or grey as to have been termed pale slates, in others of purple colour."—*Siluria*. They are principally and best exhibited in the district fed by the Tarannon river, between Llanbryn-mair and Llanidloes. Fossils are rare. The Llandovery and Pentamerus rocks, which form so marked a feature in Caermarthenshire, are only seen to a small extent in the neighbourhood of Montgomery and Bishop's Castle.

5. The remainder of the Lower Silurian rocks, including the Caradoc or Bala, Llandeilo and Lingula formations, are so intricately connected, that they will be best understood if described together. In that western portion of Montgomeryshire through which the great igneous (though stratified) chain of the Berwyn mountains runs, we find that their eastern slopes are occupied by the slates of the Llandeilo age, which are blackish, of great thickness, and at one spot contain a limestone full of the characteristic fossils of the formation. They are well exposed in the gorge of the Twrch above Llanrhaiadr. These slates pass with much uniformity underneath the shelly sandstones of Caradoc or Bala formation, which are continued southwards into the vale of Meifod, and in a narrow strip along the Severn to Welshpool. "These rocks in the valleys of the Vyrnwy and Tanat have been affected by a transverse slaty cleavage." All this district is separated on the W. from the similar rocks of Merionethshire by the Wenlock shales and Denbigh grits before mentioned. If the traveller will carefully study a geological map of N. Wales, he will perceive various patches of igneous eruptive rocks standing out from amidst the great Lower Silurian formation. Beginning from the N., he will be able to trace the great rugged Snowdonian range from Penmaenmawr to Moel Hebog, above Tremadoc. Singular as it appears, this range "is composed of rocks which are the equivalents of the strata occupying the comparatively low-lying hills of the Bala district E. of Arenig." In other words, the lavas and volcanic ashes of this great chain were erupted in the Caradoc or Bala epoch. They will be mentioned again when speaking of the igneous rocks. To the W. of the flanks of this range we have, then, emerging from under these altered Caradoc strata, and much traversed by porphyries, Llandeilo beds, overlying the Lingula flags, beneath which again lie the great mass of Cambrian grits and slates which supply the quarries of Penrhyn and Llanberis. To the S. of Moel Hebog we have the same series repeated, with the difference that the Lingula flags at Tremadoc abut upon the great Merionethshire mass of Cambrian rock. Immediately on the E. of Snowdon is a narrow anticlinal axis of slate and sandstone, full of Caradoc or Bala fossils, which separates what may be called the great porphyritic basin of the Snowdon range from the minor basin of Dolwyddelan, of precisely the same age. "The fossiliferous calcareous ash in this valley is of Bala age, and the great mass of felspar porphyry that lies below it between Dolwyddelan and Yr Arddu is clearly connected with the same set of volcanic causes that produced the thin volcanic beds underneath the limestone at Bala."—*Lamsay*. This basin of Dolwyddelan is, in fact, an outlier of the Snowdon basin. Reverting to the map again, we see that to the E. of Tremadoc commences another singular chain of mountains, which extends in a wide crescent shape to the S., and is formed by Moelwyn, the Manods, the Arenigs, Rhobell Vawr, the Arans, and Cader Idris. Now, this great range of volcanic hills is of a considerably older date than the Snowdonian range. In fact, it was formed during the Llandeilo age, while the latter only dates from the Caradoc time.

On the western flanks of these mountains we find the *Lingula* flags, which, emerging from this interbedded igneous series of Llandeilo age, in their turn immediately lie upon the flanks of the great Merionethshire Cambrian boss.

“Down the Bala valley and along the course of the river Wnion, towards Dolgelley, there runs a great fault—a downthrow—to the N.W., and on its western side all the rocks of Cader Idris and the Arans are repeated. Thus from Penmaen to the Arenigs we have a repetition of the interbedded felspathic traps and ashes of the Arans, and underneath them the *Lingula* flags crop out beneath the W. sides of Arenig and the Cambrian strata of Dolmelynllyn and Trawsfynydd.”

On the S.E. of Cader Idris and E. of the Arans are black slates of Llandeilo age far beneath the Bala limestone, which commences S. at Dinas Mowddwy, runs N. to Bala in broken lines, and from thence to Cerrig-y-Druidion, where it turns to the W. to Penmachno. This limestone is highly prolific in fossils similar to those found in Shropshire, but is so impure that it is never used for burning. The whole country to the S. of Cader Idris and Dinas Mowddwy is formed of Caradoc sandstone, which imparts to the mountain ranges that rounded and somewhat monotonous outline which is so characteristic of the Montgomeryshire hills. The greater portion of the promontory of Llyn is composed of Caradoc and Llandeilo rocks, interrupted by large patches of eruptive igneous mountains. In Anglesea a large tract of Llandeilo beds commences on the S. flanks of the Parys mountain, and runs S.W. immediately to the coast on the opposite side of the island, sending off a narrow prolongation to the N.W. coast opposite the Skerries. The typical fossils are tolerably abundant along this line.

6. The Cambrian rocks are very well defined and occur in 2 large patches, one of which is met with running parallel with the eastern coast of the Menai Straits. On the N.E. it commences between Bangor and Carnedd Llewelyn, and terminates at the sea near Clynnog. “Between the Menai Straits and the E. flank of the Snowdon range we find huge buttresses of very ancient grit, schist, slate, and sandstone, having the same direction from S.S.W. to N.N.E., in which, though their sedimentary character is obvious, and though they have not been so much altered as in Anglesea, but one obscure fossil has been detected throughout a thickness of many thousand feet.”—*Murchison*. These rocks are the equivalents of the Longmynd or Bottom rocks of Shropshire, and their commercial importance will be duly estimated as being the locale of the Llanberis and Penrhyn quarries. The second great mass of Cambrian rocks runs from Maentwrog by Harlech to Barmouth, filling up all the district between the coast and the Trawsfynydd road. This is the Merionethshire anticlinal line of Prof. Sedgwick, which, rising in an immense dome, throws off *Lingula* flags in all directions. Besides these well-defined areas, there are also large tracts in Anglesea, and a smaller one extending along the Llyn promontory from Nevin to Aberdaron, of altered metamorphic rocks, generally known as the crystalline schists of Anglesea. For a long time they were considered

to be of even older date than the Cambrian ; but they are now recognised as the equivalents of it, "altered at one spot into chlorite and mica schist, at another into quartz rock, accompanied by most extraordinary flexures of the beds." These are well shown at the S. Stack Rocks at Holyhead Island.

7. It only remains, lastly, to recapitulate the principal igneous rocks, whether eruptive or stratified. The Snowdonian range has been already mentioned as being principally of Caradoc age. "The strata which constitute the lower part of Snowdon itself, and repose upon the older slates and Lingula flags, consist of dark bluish-grey slaty schists, representing the inferior part of the Llandeilo formation. They are traversed by masses of eruptive rock, consisting of porphyry and greenstone, or compact felspar or felstone. In the next overlying accumulations are many Caradoc fossils, although the original beds alternate rapidly with volcanic dejections of ashes and felspathic materials."—*Siluria*. Prof. Ramsay considers that most of the intruding bosses of greenstone, porphyry, and syenite, which traverse the rocks W. of the Snowdon chain and the great Merionethshire district of Cambrian rocks, &c., date about the close of the Lingula flag period, *i. e.* in the epoch of the Llandeilo rocks. The trap-rocks of Arenig, the Arans, and Cader Idris are of this date. A period of comparative repose succeeded, followed by those eruptions which produced the porphyries of Snowdon. "All these Snowdonian porphyries," he says, "are true lava-beds, accompanied by volcanic ashes of the same period."

Rhobell Fawr, near Dolgelley, is considered by Prof. Ramsay to be the largest mass of greenstone in Wales, "being more than 2 miles wide, rising in great broken and bare undulations to the very top, near which it is overlaid by a strip of highly porcelainised slate." For further details the tourist should consult Prof. Ramsay's original Paper in the 'Quarterly Journal of the Geological Society,' vol. ix. p. 170 ; also a Panoramic Sketch of the Geology of Caernarvonshire and Merionethshire, by the same author, in the 'Geologist,' vol. i. No. 5. The connection of the gold-bearing strata with the rocks will be alluded to in the next chapter. While examining the mountain-ranges of N. Wales, the geologist will keep his attention alive to the numerous traces of glaciers in the different valleys, which in many places are plainly visible in the shape of moraine heaps, blocs perchés, roches moutonnées, and striations. In Rte. 17 will be found a full account of these interesting phenomena, as observed by Prof. Ramsay and detailed in his interesting work on the 'Glaciers of N. Wales.' The Drift, too, is often to be seen, "generally in its native state, consisting of clay, angular stones, gravel, and boulders ; sometimes, as in Cwm Llafar, on the W. flank of Carnedd Llewelyn, arranged in terraces marking pauses in the re-elevation of the country. Shells were found by Mr. Trimmer on Moel-Tryfan, near Nantlle, 1300 ft. above the sea, in sand and gravel, and again at about the same height, 2 m. W. of the peak of Snowdon, on a sloping plain of drift charged with erratic blocks, one of which, of great size, is known as 'Maenbras,' or the large stone."

III. COMMERCE AND MANUFACTURES.

The trade and commerce of N. Wales, taken as a whole, is not to be compared in extent with that of S. Wales, although in some particulars, such as lead and silver, it is perhaps more prolific.

1. COAL is produced in considerable quantities in the Denbighshire and Flintshire fields. Taking the area of both fields at 82 m., Mr. Hull estimates that down to a depth of 2000 ft. the deposit of coal amounted to 781 millions of tons, of which 510 millions remain to be worked—a sufficient quantity to last nearly 1000 years.—*Coal-fields of Great Britain*. The total number of collieries in N. Wales for the year 1866 is as follows:—

Anglesea	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
Flint	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	40
Denbigh	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	35
										—
										80
										—

Producing—

								Tons.
From Anglesea	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	12,000
Denbigh	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,500,000
Flint	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	570,000
								—
								2,082,000

The coal in the two latter counties is free-burning, or bituminous, leaves a white ash, and is valuable as a steam-coal.

2. The IRONSTONES of the Denbighshire district consist of the usual argillaceous and black-band varieties, which generally accompany coal-seams, &c. The locality of Brymbo, near Minera, obtained some celebrity as being one of the earliest seats of the iron manufacture, which was commenced here in 1780, by John Wilkinson. “It was to this field that the first Boulton and Watt steam-engine ever erected in Cornwall was sent, travelling on road-waggon the whole of the distance, 300 m.; and here (at Bersham) much of the ordnance used by our armies in the Napoleonic wars was founded.”

The number of furnaces throughout N. Wales is 10 (all in the neighbourhood of Wrexham), of which 5 only are in blast, producing a total of 25,515 tons of pig-iron. The whole coalfield yielded 56,682 tons of iron-mine in 1866, the value of which was upwards of 17,000*l*. —*Hunt's Mining Records*.

3. COPPER.—With the exception of the Parys Mountain, in Anglesea (Rte. 9), no great amount of copper is worked in this country. The copper-mine at Llandudno, near Conway, produced, in 1862, 1154 tons (but has since fallen off), besides which a small quantity was extracted from Drws-y-Coed, in the pass of Nantlle. The Mona and the Parys mines, near Amlwch, where the smelting-houses are situated, yielded, in 1866, 7369 tons of ore. Besides this amount, there are in the same locality precipitate-works where copper is precipitated from the

mineral water to the extent of nearly 100 tons annually. The ores, both here and at Llandudno, are found in the forms of sulphuret, sulphate, and green carbonates of copper.

4. A more important item in the mineral products is LEAD-ORE, of which, in 1866, upwards of 15,105 tons were raised, producing 11,531 tons of lead, and 71,765 oz. of silver. Denbighshire, Flintshire, and Montgomeryshire, are the chief repositories of this valuable metal, and immense fortunes have at different times been realized from the mines, which, however, from the fluctuations which always attend these adventures, have, if the truth was known, impoverished more than have been enriched. Of the more fortunate undertakings are the Minera mines, which, after varying success, and after being more than once abandoned, have been since 1853 producing profits to the amount of 30,000*l.* a-year, so that the original 25*l.* shares sell at 120*l.* each. From these mines more than 3000 tons of lead-ore are annually raised. Holywell is the centre of the Flintshire district, and the head-quarters of the "ticketings," which are held in the hotel at stated days, when samples are produced, and large quantities of ore are sold. The Pant-y-go mine, from whence the Grosvenor family obtained their fortune, is now exhausted. The principal of those now in work are the Holywell Level (access to the workings of which can be only obtained in a boat); the Rhosasmawr, producing 1000 tons annually; and the Talargoch mines, yielding, in addition to the ore, a large quantity of zinc. There are, besides these, a great number of others more or less prosperous.

The Llanidloes and Llangynog districts, in Montgomeryshire, have also yielded largely at different times. The whole of the coast from Flint to Mostyn is lined at frequent intervals with lead-smelting works, and at Bagillt are larger establishments, where the ore is desilverised and manufactured into sheets, pipes, litharge, red-lead, &c.

5. GOLD, though it cannot be considered as a staple product of N. Wales, has nevertheless been found in sufficient quantities to warrant its mention. The chief locale of its discovery is in the valley of the Mawddach, near Dolgelley, at the mines of Y Clogau, Prince of Wales,* Dol-y-ffrwynog, &c. "At the latter place the quartz gold-bearing vein traverses a talcose schist, which is a metamorphosed part of the Lingula flags, intimately associated with neighbouring ramifying intrusive masses of greenstone; and here, for a time, gold was found in such quantities that in the lode itself it was visible, speckling the surface of the quartz."—*Ramsay*. The gold thus extracted is worth about 3*l.* 17*s.* per oz. These facts are so far valuable inasmuch as Professor Ramsay points out the frequency of gold in strata of the same age in the Ural Mountains. The strings of ore, or "bunches," as they are technically called, were formerly worked as poor copper ore, and sold to the Flintshire smelters, who were so averse to its discontinuance that they even offered 5*s.* a ton more for the purchase of it. Mr. Readwin, who experimented largely on the ores of this district, considers the

* The mines of Vigna, Clogau, and Castell Carn Dochan, in 1866, yielded, from 2927 tons of crushed quartz, 742 oz. of gold.

average yield of gold to be about half an ounce to the ton of quartz. Several companies were formed to work these mines in a systematic manner, both by the mechanical mode of crushing and by the chemical one of amalgam, but the greater number of them speedily took the benefit of the Winding-up Act.

6. The SLATE quarries are practically the El Dorados of this country; and the value and magnitude of these concerns will be at once recognised by the traveller who visits the Llanberis, Penrhyn, or Corris quarries. Those which are most worth seeing are described under their respective routes; but the statistical returns of the amount of slates may be not uninteresting. They are—from Montgomeryshire 3000 tons; from Merionethshire, which includes the Ffestiniog quarries, 57,730 tons; from Denbighshire (Llangollen), 5000 tons; and Caernarvonshire, 281,320 tons: in all making a total of 347,050 tons. Besides these there are at Minera extensive quarries of mountain limestone, at Penmaen Mawr of greenstone and whinstone, and at Pwllheli of granite.

IV. ANTIQUARIAN VIEW.

North Wales is particularly rich in early British remains, more especially in the *cromlech*, of which upwards of 28 examples are to be found in Anglesea alone. The most common form is that of a slab or table-stone, placed upon 3 or more upright supporters, and the generally received opinion is that they were sepulchral, although a few antiquaries still consider that they were erected for sacrificial purposes. A feature worth noticing in the geographical position of cromlechau in Wales is, that they are almost always found on elevated table-land overlooking the sea, but comparatively rarely inland or amongst the mountains. For instance, we shall find that 9-10ths of the Welsh cromlechau are grouped on the table-lands of Anglesea, Merionethshire, Caernarvonshire (Lleyn), and Pembrokeshire, nearly all commanding or contiguous to the coast.

The most perfect specimens in N. Wales are at Plas Newydd, Bryn Celliddu (evidently sepulchral), Bodowyr (the smallest known), Henblas (the largest), Llanallgo, and Presaddfed, in Anglesea; Capel Garmon, near Llanrwst, Cefn Amwlech, Dolbenmaen, Bachwen at Clynnog, and several others on the same line of coast, in Caernarvonshire; and a group of at least 4 or 5 in the parish of Llanddwywe, near the coach-road from Harlech to Barmouth. Many others have fallen victims to the utilitarian views of farmers and landowners, although the efforts of the Cambrian Archæological Association have doubtless saved some from destruction. Besides the cromlech, we meet with the *Bedd* or *Grave*, which admits of no doubt as to the purposes for which it was constructed. In many of them the only trace of its former tenant remains in the name, which has been handed down from tradition; in some cases further marked by the addition of an upright stele or stone, or a *carnedd* or heap of stones. Such examples may be found in the district of the Llyfni, near Clynnog, where an unusual number of heroes were buried. In other instances *cistvaens*, or rude chests formed of stones,

have been discovered, containing the funereal remains of the dead. These are found connected with *carneddau* or in a *tumulus*. As examples of the tomb may be cited that of Bronwen, on the banks of the Alaw, in Anglesea, from which a square *cistvaen* has been removed; Bedd Taliesin, near Aberystwith; Beddau gwyr Ardudwy, or the Graves of the men of Ardudwy, near Ffestiniog; Bedd Porus, near Trawsfynydd, &c.

In contradistinction to the *carnedd* or *cairn*—which is nothing but a heap of stones piled up—is the barrow or *tumulus*, a large mound of earth usually heaped together either to commemorate some great battle, or, still more likely, to cover the ashes and serve as a vast funeral monument for those heroes who fell in the engagement. In some of these tumuli *cistvaens* have been found. As an instance of the sepulchral *tumulus* we may mention the Gop at Newmarket, in Flintshire, and the Capel Towyn, near Holyhead; although there are others which, instead of being sepulchral, appear to have marked the site of some building, as Owain Glyndwr's Mount, near Corwen;—or the Tomen, which were usually looked upon as elevated mounds for defensive purposes; as Tomen-y-Rhodwy, near Llandegla, in Denbighshire; Tomen-y-Bala, in Merionethshire, &c. Before quitting the subject of sepulchral memorials we must not omit the *Inscribed Stones*, upon which, with characteristic brevity, the name of the commemorated person is rudely sculptured. Many of these stones have been discovered in positions which they were evidently never intended to fill, such as watering-troughs, gateposts, lintels of windows in churches and farm-houses. The principal of these are Eliseg's Pillar at Valle Crucis; the stone at Llanrug; the Lovernus stone at Llanfaglan; the stones at Llanor, near Pwllheli; the stones at Llangian, in Lley, and at Llanvihangel-y-Traethau, near Harlech; at Brondeg, in Anglesea; the Catamanus stone at Llangadwaladr ch.; the Culidorus stone at Llangedfni; St. Cadfan's stone at Towyn; the Vinnemaglus stone at Gwytherin. Other stones, which have some legend attached to them, are without any inscription, as Lech Idris, near Trawsfynydd; Maen Beuno, near Welshpool, &c. Lastly, we have the *Maen Hir*, or Long Stone, which was generally used to commemorate either some particular action or event, or else as a boundary-mark.

The dykes or roads of N. Wales are of great importance, and, as regards the latter, are tolerably numerous.

Offa's Dyke was the great boundary-line, or line of demarcation, constructed, as is generally supposed, by the king of that name. Some antiquaries, however, are inclined to think that it was raised at an earlier period, and was only adopted by Offa. At several points the line of the dyke is crossed by Roman roads. Commencing on the N. coast of Flintshire, near Prestatyn, it runs S. in the direction of Mold, Minera, Ruabon, Chirk, Selattyn, Llanymynach, soon after which it crosses the Severn to traverse the Long Mountain. From thence it runs past Montgomery to the high grounds of the Clun Forest, traversing the counties of Radnor, parts of Hereford and Gloucester, where

it eventually terminates in the grounds of Sedbury Park, which overlook the Severn estuary. Running in a parallel line, though varying in distance from a few hundred yards to 3 miles, was *Watt's Dyke*, supposed by some to have been a second dyke constructed by Offa. It is neither so clearly made out nor so persistent as the former. It is probable that it commenced at the sea-coast near Basingwerk Abbey, from whence it ran S., past Halkin, Hope, the gorge of the Alyn, Wrexham, Wynnstay (which was formerly called Wattstay from this circumstance), and Oswestry, finally disappearing in the flats to the N. of the Vyrnwy. It has been conjectured with great probability that the ground between the two dykes was neutral.

The *Roman Stations* were very important, and we are enabled to identify many of them accurately from their position, the roads leading to and from them, and the buildings and remains found at many of them. They were—

Segontium, or Caer Seiont	..	Llanbeblig, near Caernarvon.
Heriri Mons	.. .. .	Tomen-y-Mur, near Ffestiniog.
Conovium	.. .. .	Caerhun.
Deva	.. .. .	Chester.
Bovium	.. .. .	Bangor Iscoed.
Rutunium	.. .. .	Ruyton (?)
Uriconium	.. .. .	Wroxeter.
Maglona	.. .. .	Machynlleth.
Mediolanum	.. .. .	Mathrafal, near Welshpool.
Varæ	.. .. .	Bodfari.

They are all described in the different routes, together with other places known to have been occupied by Roman forces, as Caergwrle, near Chester; Caersws, near Newtown; Caegai, near Bala, &c. A Roman road can be traced in places (1) between Heriri Mons and Segontium, running past Beddgelert through Nantgwynant; (2) between Heriri Mons and Conovium, by Dolwyddelan, where the Sarn Helen may be plainly traced running down Cwm Penamnaen; and again (3) between the same stations down the valley of the Mawddach as far as Dolmelyullyn. Another Roman road may be followed from Conovium to Aber, through the pass of Bwlch-y-ddeufaen, but it is not unlikely that it was, in still earlier times, a British trackway. A probable continuation of the Sarn Helen is traceable over Cader Idris to Pennal, near Machynlleth. A road is said to have been at times uncovered on the sandy coast of Anglesea, from the so-called station of Caerleh to the ferry of Moel-y-Don; 4 or 5 roads are very distinctly marked from Caersws, radiating in different directions to the stations around: the one to the S. connecting the country of the Ordovices with that of the Silures, and running down to Caerfagu, near Penybont, in Radnorshire. } Traces of early mining-works are not so common in N. as in S. Wales, which probably presented in its iron greater inducements. Nevertheless, the Romans have left their marks behind them, both in the copper-mines of the Orme's Head, near Llandudno, and at Llanymynach, near Oswestry. }

Camps and earthworks are to be found throughout the whole of N. Wales, occupying nearly every available height, and testifying sufficiently to the offensive and defensive capabilities of the inhabitants. The largest and most perfect are Moel-y-Gaer, in Flintshire; Caer Gybi, camp at Porthlhamel, and Bwrdd Arthur, in Anglesea; Pen-y-Cloddiau, Pen-y-Garden, Caer Drewyn, and the camps on Moel Ffenlli and the Clwydian Hills, in Denbighshire; Castell Caer Seion, Dinas Dinorwig, Caercarregyfran, Dinas Emrys, Dinas Dinlle, Tre'r Ceiri, Carn Madryn, Castell Odo, Porth Dinlleyn, in Caernarvonshire; Ffrid Ffalwin, Moat, Gaer Fawr, Caer Digol, in Montgomeryshire. A common feature in the earliest hill-fortresses is the occurrence of "cyttiau," or circular huts, erected for the convenience of the garrison. Tre'r Ceiri, on Yr Eifl, is the finest example of these.

Of *Castles* there is a "goodly store." The finest and most perfect were erected by Edward I. to ensure a complete mastery over his Welsh conquests, and, as a consequence, exhibit a strong likeness to each other in plan, the differences being chiefly in detail. Conway, Beaumaris, Caernarvon, and Harlech, are generally supposed to have been built by the same architect, viz. Henry de Elreton, and may rank as the 4 finest of N. Welsh fortresses. Besides these, there are Hawarden, Ewloe, Flint, Dyserth, Rhuddlan, Dinas Bran, Denbigh, Dinorwig, Dolwyddelan, Criccieth, Dolbadarn, Castell Lleiniog, Dolforwyn, and Montgomery; together with the still inhabited castles of Shrewsbury, Powis, and Chirk. The finest examples of town-walls in the kingdom may be seen at Chester, Conway, Caernarvon, and, in a less degree, at Shrewsbury.

Ecclesiastical.—N. Wales cannot boast any cathedral church at all equal to Llandaff or St. David's, or even—to descend a step lower—to St. John's priory church at Brecon. In fact, the 2 cathedrals of St. Asaph and Bangor are surpassed by many collegiate churches in size, grandeur, and detail. Nevertheless, they are both interesting, particularly the former, which, although plain, has a good effect from the massive appearance of the tower, which in that point is similar to the tower of Llanbadarn Vawr, near Aberystwith. Of ruined ecclesiastical structures, the Abbey of Valle Crucis, with its delicate E. E. windows, is the gem of the country, both from its superior state of preservation and its exquisite situation. It has had, besides, the advantage of a careful restoration at the hands of zealous archæologists. It would be well if the same boon had been extended to Basingwerk Abbey (12th cent.), which, though not to be compared with the former, yet presents many good examples of the architecture of that period.

Of Cymmer Abbey, near Dolgelley, the remains are much smaller; and of Llanddwyn, near Anglesea, there is only the bare shell.

The following churches will be found best worth visiting by the archæologist. The numbers denote the route:—

- | | |
|---|------------------------------|
| 4. St. John's, Chester—double row of
triforium arches. | 1. Abbey Church, Shrewsbury. |
| 1. St. Mary's, Shrewsbury. | 1. Old St. Chad's. |
| | 1. Ateham—Norm. doorway. |

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>1. Wroxeter—Mon.
 26. Oswestry.
 1. Ruabon—Mon.
 1. Wrexham — Tower, apse, Mon.
 (Perp.)
 1. Gresford—Mon. tower (Perp.).
 4. Northop—Tower, Mon.
 10. Mold.
 10. Cilcain—Roof.
 11. Llanarmon—Mon. chandelier.
 11. Llanfwrwg—Arcades.
 11. Ruthin.
 11. Llanrhaiadr—Window.
 11. Efenectyd—Rood-loft.
 7. Cerrig Ceinwen—Font 12th cent.
 7. Llanvair Cwmmwdd—Font 12th cent.
 12. Llanrwst—Gwydir chapel (Perp.), Mon.
 11. Whitchurch—Mon. (late Perp.).
 3. Llangollen.
 4. Conway.
 21. Ysppyty Evan—Mon.
 12. Llandegai—Mon.
 19. Beddgelert — Old Priory Ch., E. Engl.
 15. Clynnog—Roof, tower.
 16. Aberdaron—E. window.
 8. Beaumaris—Mon., carving, brass.
 7. Newborough.</p> | <p>8. Llaniestyn—(E. Perp.) Font.
 7. Aberfraw.
 8. Llanvihangel—Pulpit.
 8. Llanallgo.
 8. Llanwenllyfo—Brass.
 8. Llandyffnan—Sculpture.
 7. Holyhead—Sculpture.
 7. Llangadwaladr—Windows.
 7. Llangwyfan.
 7. Penmynydd—Mon.
 24. Llanaber—E. Engl.
 24. Llanddwywe—Mon.
 24. Llandanwg.
 25. Towyn—Norm.
 25. Llanegryn—Screen.
 25. Llanvihangel-y-Pennant—Mon.
 3. Llanuwchllyn—Mon.
 4. Llanasa—Stained glass.
 28. Llanwrin.
 27. Welshpool.
 27. Guilsfield.
 26. Meifod.
 27. Newtown—Old church.
 ,, New church, screen.
 27. Llanidloes—Roof, pillars of Mon.
 21. Pennant Melangell—Screen.
 26. Llanyblodwell.
 8. Penmon—Priory (church restored).
 Norm. chancel, early part of 15th cent.</p> |
|---|---|

Together with churches we may associate holy wells and crosses. Wells are very common throughout the country, though in many cases they have fallen into neglect and disuse, so that the rules which guided the devotees are now traditionary. The religious estimation in which they were held is shown in the Holy Well of St. Winifred and the Ffynnon Wigfair, near St. Asaph, both good examples of Late Perp. architecture. Crosses are comparatively rare. Specimens occur at Newmarket (Maen Achwyfan, 12th cent.), Penmon, Llanvihangel, Tre'r Beirdd, and Llanfair Mathafarneithaf, in Anglesea, Derwen near Ruthin, &c.

Caernarvonshire and Anglesea abound in instances of domestic architecture, many farmhouses presenting perhaps the only traces of a good old Welsh family which has died out: Mostyn Hall; Pengwern, near Llangollen; Tower, near Mold; Gloddaeth, near Llandudno; Bodowen, Plas Penmynydd, Plas Coch, and Henblas, in Anglesea; Corsygedol, near Barmouth; Plas Mawr and the College at Conway; Bodwrda, near Aberdaron; Bodidris, near Wrexham; Rhiwgoch, near Trawsfynydd. The Parliament-house at Dolgelley and the garrison at Mac-hynlleth may also be enumerated as good specimens.

V. TRAVELLING VIEW.

The traveller in Wales, otherwise than by railway, will find in the frequent occurrence of turnpikes a proof, for which he will not always be grateful, of the attention which for many years has been paid to the improvement of the communications of this country. He will also find wild roads among the mountains, which he may follow if he pleases, especially if gifted with the faculty of making his way without speaking the language, which some adventurous persons possess; for it is along these tracts of ancient days that he must expect to hear the short and sometimes contemptuously-sounding expression of "*Dim Saesneg*," "*No English*," as the only reply to his questions from man, woman, and child. The great Holyhead road, however, will present none of these difficulties, and the pedestrian or the traveller on horseback, if so sensible an individual were now easily to be met with, would find it the best basis of his operations, and the most convenient route from which to diverge into the valleys and upland regions, appropriate to each, on either side. "To be able to travel a distance of 83 miles, namely, from the bridge at Chirk to Holyhead, through the most mountainous district of the United Kingdom, along a road, not made as roads usually are, but actually built over all varieties of rugged surface, uniform in shape, perfect as to its smoothness and solidity, free from a single inconvenient inclination, and in its progress passing over the great chasm of the Menai Strait, is to do that which cannot be done even in those countries where the most profuse expenditure on roads has been directed by the greatest talents and enterprise." This road, being the great highway between England and Ireland, was once traversed by a large number of conveyances; but the railways have banished them nearly all, and in a short time a coach of any description will be a curiosity in the Principality. The following are the roads at present accommodated by coaches:—1. a daily coach each way from Bettws-y-Coed Station to Bangor, through Capel Curig and Nant Ffrancon, thus enabling the traveller to see the main features of one of the finest portions of the country; 2. from Corwen to Caernarvon, through Pentrevoelas, Bettws-y-Coed, Capel Curig, and Llanberis; 3. from Bala to Dolgelley; 4. from Beaumaris to Bangor; 5. from Caernarvon to Bettws-y-Coed by Capel Curig; 6. from Caernarvon to Beddgelert and Tanybwlech; 7. from Aberystwith to Devil's Bridge.

Railway communication, however, which of late years has so intersected S. Wales with its iron net, is going considerably forward in the N.; and as new lines, or even new portions of them, are opened, the intentions and arrangements of the tourist will receive large modifications from time to time. Bradshaw's Railway Guide and skeleton map must be his best reference. The lines at present constructed are—1. The Shrewsbury and Chester, which, although of narrow gauge, is worked by the Great Western Company. The southern half of the route is flat and uninteresting, but the remaining portion runs

through scenery of very romantic and striking character, particularly in the neighbourhood of Chirk. A consequence of passing through this romantic and broken country has been the necessity of some expensive and magnificent railway works, such as the viaducts over the Dee and Ceiriog. The tourist will notice with pleasure the very prettily-arranged stations, which, with their rustic woodwork and gardens, look more like the lodge to a gentleman's seat than stations. The average cost of this railway was about 23,000*l.* a mile. 2. The Chester and Holyhead line, which was opened in its entirety in 1850, is also famous for its splendid engineering works, even were we to leave out of the question the Britannia Bridge, which, until the erection of the bridge at Montreal, was unequalled in conception or size. The peculiarity of this great trunk-line is, that, with the exception of its inland course through Anglesea, it is carried almost entirely at the brink of the shore, seldom out of sight of the sea, and in many places so close that the waves in rough weather dash over it. The works most worth particularising on this line are—the long sea-wall which protects the rails on the estuary side, running through a great part of the county of Flint; the tunnels and cuttings at Colwyn and Penmaen Mawr; the Conway and Britannia Tubular Bridges; and the Stanley embankment entering Holyhead island. 3. A line runs from Chester to Mold, principally to accommodate the mineral traffic, which is considerable. 4. A short line from Hope to Buckley and Wrexham. Branch lines from the Chester and Holyhead railway to, 5, Llandudno, and 6, Bettws-y-Coed. 7. Anglesea Central from Gaerwen to Amlwch. 8. The Oswestry, Welshpool, Newtown, and Llanidloes, opened in 1860, bids fair to become a great trunk-line; on the one hand in connection with the Ellesmere and Whitechurch line, which communicates at Whitechurch directly with Manchester by way of Crewe; and on the other hand with the Mid-Wales and Central-Wales Railways, by which a continuous and uninterrupted route is furnished to Rhayader, Builth, Brecon, Merthyr, Llandovery, Llandeilo, and Caermarthen. 9. The Vale of Clwyd Railway commences at Rhyl with a junction with the Chester and Holyhead, and, as its name imports, accommodates the towns of that vale—Rhuddlan, St. Asaph, Denbigh, Ruthin, and Corwen. 10. The Dolgelley Rlwy. begins at Ruabon and runs as far as Bala, joining at Corwen with the Rhyl line. 11. From Moat Lane the Aberystwith line is given off, passing through Machynlleth, and sending a branch to Dinas Mowddwy. At Glandyfi Junction (12) the main line of the Welsh Coast Rly. commences to Towyn (from whence there is (13) a short branch to near Tal-y-Llyn), Dolgelley, Barmouth, Harlech, Porthmadoc, and Pwllheli. At Afonwen there is a branch (14) to Caernarvon. 15. From Porthmadoc the Ffestiniog Rly. diverges to the slate quarries.

For the convenience of those who have but little time at their disposal, the London and North-Western Rly. and Great Western Rly. Companies issue circular tourists' tickets, which enable the holders to proceed to Caernarvon, breaking their journey at Rhyl, Abergele,

Conway, and Bangor, and proceeding to Beddgelert, Barmouth, Dolgelley, Machynlleth, and Aberystwith.

Besides these means of communication, steamers from Liverpool to Rhyl, Beaumaris, and Menai Bridge, weekly deposit a large amount of excursionists of all classes from the northern towns.

Hotel accommodation as a rule is plentiful, varied, and good in N. Wales, and far exceeds that with which the tourist meets in S. Wales. What may be termed the pleasure-seeking localities—Bangor, Llandudno, Beaumaris, Caernarvon, Capel Curig, Llanberis, Beddgelert, Tanybwch, Menai Bridge, Dolgelley, Llangollen—are provided with hotels of the most comfortable character, and most of the towns possess two or more, offering more or less comfort at more or less cost. But as a general rule the tourist will find it most advantageous to go to the best hotel, for the difference is rarely very considerable, and the *tout ensemble* is generally very superior. A single person living in the coffee-room ought usually to live for 10s. to 12s. a day, of course not including wine or any such additional expenses. Every hotel and inn provides cars, for which the charge is almost always 1s. a mile and 6d. for the return, drivers and postboys expecting about 3d. per mile.

A tour on a good hack, which the traveller should bring from his own stables, and be well accustomed to ride, is the pleasantest, the healthiest, and the best of all modes of locomotion. This may or may not involve the necessity of a servant in a light driving cart with another horse, and the charge of luggage, rugs, &c.

Another good way of seeing N. Wales is by a pedestrian excursion, with an occasional lift by rail or coach when the road is uninteresting, has been travelled before, or when the weather is bad—a probability which must always be taken into consideration in a mountainous country; but he knows not how to travel who is afraid of weather, and many of the finest effects of landscape are lost by stay-at-home people, on what they are pleased to call a bad day. To ascend mountains, however, on such, it must be owned, is a waste of time.

Many tourists have waited patiently at Beddgelert, Llanberis, and Capel Curig, for many days together, in the hopes of a tolerable day for the ascent of Snowdon, and have after all gone away unrewarded, or been compelled to go up in the midst of fogs and clouds, with the faint hope that they might clear away, if only for a few minutes, and reveal a portion of the magnificent panorama. The pedestrian should provide himself with thick boots or shoes, a stout walking-stick, a change of socks, a flannel shirt, a flask of whisky, a compass, and an ordnance map; and these will suffice until he gets back to his temporary quarters. Every tourist, and more especially the pedestrian, should also remember that many a beautiful scene will be quite wasted on him if he does not cultivate in himself the faculty of enjoyment. Come from which side of his disposition it may, some, like Mr. Speaker Onslow, or, in these days, like Mr. Borrow, observe life with interest from a wayside public-house; some from a mountain-top.

“N. Wales should be studied for itself and by itself. If then we would desire to appreciate it as it deserves to be appreciated, let us in the first place banish from our minds a desire to have our senses astonished by mere exhibitions of magnitude. . . . The effects of Niagara Falls depend on their magnitude: those of many an insignificant streamlet, such as are those of Nant Mill, make a more charming picture, and one of more enduring power of giving pleasure. Bear something of these considerations in mind; let not the want of great magnitude prevent a calm and just observation; and the charms of N. Wales will grow upon us day by day, ever yielding new combinations to surprise and delight.”—*Halliwell*.

VI.

With the Welsh language this Handbook does not propose to meddle; yet a glossary of words which occur generally in the names of places will not be inappropriate, and the traveller will add, perhaps almost insensibly, to the sources of his interest and amusement, if he carries with him a good Welsh dictionary, and the Church-service in Welsh, with the English on the opposite side. The children of Gomer have spoken this speech from their beginning, and in the names of places it marks their passage yet through many lands. London (*Lyndyn*), “the city of the wide water;” Dover (*Dwfwr*), “the water;” Winchester, “the white city,” and many others, are ancient British names. The first word in this short glossary (“*aber*”) we meet with across the Channel in Havred, with “*cefn*” in the Cevennes, with “*pen*” in the Apennines; and the list might be extended greatly.

<i>Aber</i> , a confluence or fall of a smaller river into a greater.	<i>Carnedd</i> (pl. <i>Carneddau</i>), heap of stones.
<i>Afon</i> , a river.	<i>Carreg</i> , rock.
<i>Allt</i> , a woody cliff.	<i>Castell</i> , a fortress.
<i>Bach</i> , or, by mutation, <i>Fach</i> or <i>Vach</i> , small.	<i>Cefn</i> , a back, a ridge.
<i>Bunau</i> , eminences.	<i>Clawdd</i> , a dyke.
<i>Bedd</i> , a grave.	<i>Clogwyn</i> , a precipice.
<i>Bettws</i> , a station in a vale.	<i>Coch</i> , red.
<i>Blaen</i> , the head of a valley.	<i>Coed</i> , wood.
<i>Bôd</i> , a dwelling.	<i>Cors</i> , bog.
<i>Bryn</i> , a hill.	<i>Croes</i> , cross.
<i>Bwlch</i> , a pass or defile.	<i>Cwm</i> , a glen, dingle.
<i>Bychan</i> , little.	<i>Cymmer</i> , confluence.
<i>Cader</i> , a chair, a seat.	<i>Dinas</i> , a fortified hill.
<i>Cae</i> , an enclosure.	<i>Dôl</i> , a meadow by the side of a river.
<i>Caer</i> , a fort, a camp.	<i>Drws</i> , a door or pass.
<i>Capel</i> , chapel.	<i>Dû</i> , black.
	<i>Dwr</i> , water.
	<i>Dyffryn</i> , valley.

<i>Eglwys</i> , church.	<i>Nant</i> , a brook.
<i>Ffynnon</i> , well.	<i>Newydd</i> , new.
<i>Gaer</i> , same as <i>Caer</i> .	<i>Pen</i> , a head.
<i>Garth</i> , a swelling knoll.	<i>Penmaen</i> , stone end.
<i>Glan</i> , shore, bank.	<i>Pentre</i> , a hamlet.
<i>Glas</i> , blue, green.	<i>Pistyll</i> , a cataract, a fall.
<i>Glyn</i> , a glen.	<i>Plas</i> , a hall, a seat.
<i>Gwern</i> , a watery meadow.	<i>Pont</i> , a bridge.
<i>Gwyn</i> , white.	<i>Porth</i> , a gate.
<i>Gwrydd</i> , green.	<i>Pwl</i> , a pool.
<i>Gwynnedd</i> , a pit.	<i>Rhaiadr</i> , a cataract.
<i>Hafod-tai</i> , summer farms.	<i>Rhiw</i> , an ascent.
<i>Havod</i> , a summer residence.	<i>Rhudd</i> , purple.
<i>Hén</i> , old.	<i>Rhós</i> , moist place.
<i>Hir</i> , long.	<i>Rhyd</i> , a ford.
<i>Llan</i> , an enclosure, hence a churchyard or church.	<i>Sarn</i> , a causeway.
<i>Llech</i> , a flat stone.	<i>Tal</i> , the head.
<i>Llwyn</i> , a grove.	<i>Tuarn</i> , tavern.
<i>Llwyd</i> , grey.	<i>Tracth</i> , a sand.
<i>Llyn</i> , a lake.	<i>Tre</i> , <i>Tref</i> , a house
<i>Maen</i> , stone.	<i>Tŵr</i> , a town.
<i>Maes</i> , field.	<i>Twrd</i> , a fort.
<i>Mawr</i> , or, by mutation, <i>Fawr</i> , great.	<i>Ty</i> , a house.
<i>Melin</i> , mill.	<i>Tyddyn</i> , a farm.
<i>Melyn</i> , yellow.	<i>Y</i> , the, of.
<i>Moel</i> , a bare head, a conical smooth hill.	<i>Ym</i> , in.
<i>Morfu</i> , a sea-marsh.	<i>Yn</i> , in, at.
<i>Mynach</i> , a monk.	<i>Ynys</i> , island.
<i>Mynydd</i> , a mountain.	<i>Ystrad</i> , vale formed by a river.

VII. POINTS of INTEREST for the GEOLOGIST.

(Vide *Introduction and Routes.*)

Permian beds in gorge of the Dee, near Overton.	Bala limestone in Vale of Hirnant.
Great fault in gorge of the Alyn (coal-measures).	Altered and contorted schists of Stack Rocks.
Minera coal-measures. Fish remains.	Copper-mines of Parys Mountain.
Millstone grit near Holywell and Halkin Mountain.	Slate-quarries in Cambrian of the Llanberis Mountains.
Limestone of ditto, with lead-lodes.	Ditto Penrhyn.
Ditto at Orme's Head.	Moel Trifael. Raised beaches and shells.
Ditto and caves at Cefn.	Moraines and glacier signs in Llanberis and all the valleys round Snowdon.
Limestone rocks of Eglwyseg (horizontal stratification).	Lingula flags at Tremadoc. Moel-y-Gest and Wern rocks.
Wenlock shales in ravines of the Aled.	Cader Idris.
Taramon shales between Llanbrynmair and Llanidloes.	Copper-mines near Dolgelley.
Ludlow rocks of Long Mountain.	Rhobell Vawr greenstone.
Gorge of the Twrch. Llandeilo flags.	Penmaen Mawr. Quarries of greenstone and whinstone.
Bala beds on Snowdon.	Sarn Badrig.

VIII. COMPARATIVE HEIGHTS OF NORTH WELSH MOUNTAINS.

	Feet.		Feet.
Snowdon	3571	Rhydd Hywell	1898
Carnedd Llewelyn	3469	Llandinam Mountain	1895
Carnedd Davydd	3427	Yr Eifl	1866
Glyder Vawr	3300	Mount Faden	1864
Glyder Vach	3100	Cyrn-y-Brain	1857
Trifaen	3000	Moel Fammau	1845
Aran Mowddwy	2955	Benglog	1844
Cader Idris	2914	Gyrn Goch	1823
Moel Siabod	2870	Moel Morfydd	1767
Moel Eilio	2870	Bwlch Mawr	1673
Moel Hebog	2850	Moel Eithin	1660
Arenig Vawr	2809	Bronbanog	1572
Cader Berwyn	2715	Penmaen Mawr	1540
Moelwyn	2566	Cader Dolmel	1452
Aran	2473	Long Mountain	1330
Rhinog Vawr	2463	Carn Madryn	1205
Diphwys	2412	Breidden Hills	1199
Cynicht	2372	Mynydd Rhiw	1113
Graig Goch	2358	Llanelian Mountain	1110
Mynydd Mawr	2300	Moel Fre Issa	1037
Taren-y-Gesail	2244	Carn Pen Tyrch	950
Carnedd Ffiliast	2127	Garreg Mountain	835
Craig Dwrg	2100	Orme's Head	750
Moel Ferna	2050	Gwaunysgaer	732
Moel-y-Darail	1934		

IX. CHIEF PLACES OF INTEREST to the TOURIST.

Those which are best worth seeing are marked with asterisks.

1. SHROPSHIRE.

Shrewsbury. Castle. *School. St. Nicholas Chapel. Market-house.
 **Antiquarian Museum, containing the articles found at Wrox-
 eter. **St. Mary's Ch. *Old St. Chad's. Timbered Houses.
 Drapers' Hall. **The Abbey Ch. and Monastic Remains.
 Town Walls. *Hill's Monument and view from the summit.
 Clive's Monument. *The Quarry. Welsh and English Bridges.
 Rowley Mansion. Atcham Ch. **Wroxeter Ch. and Roman
 city of Uriconium.

Baschurch. Camp at Berth Hill.

Whittington. *Castle.

Ellesmere. Ch. *View from Castle Hill.

Oswestry. Well. Ch. *Old Oswestry. Castell Brogyntyn in
 Porkington Park. Offa's and Watt's Dyke.

2. CHESHIRE.

Chester. **Cathedral. **St. John's Ch. and Monastic remains. St. Peters. **Walls. Castle. Shirehall. *Roodee and Grosvenor Bridge. **Rows. *Stanley Palace. *Bishop Lloyd's House. *God's Providence House. Roman Bath. Crypt in Bridge-street. *Phoenix and Water Tower. Guildhall. *Eaton Hall.

3. DENBIGHSHIRE.

Llanymynach. *Hill. Ch. Llanyblodwell Ch.
Llanrhaiadr-yn-Mochnant. **Pistyll Rhaiadr. Camp near Llangedwen.
 ***Chirk.* Castle and view from Terrace. Viaduct and Aqueduct. Glen of the Ceiriog.
Ruabon. *Ch. and Monuments. *Wynnstay. *Nantybelan. Garden Hill.
Wrexham. **Ch. Marchwiell Ch.
Gresford. *Ch. Vale of Alyn.
Llangollen. Ch. *Bridge. Plas Newydd. Pengwern. *Castell Dinas Bran. **Valle Crucis Abbey. Eliseg's Pillar. Scenery of Eglwyseg Rocks and Cynr-y-brain. Slate Quarries. Llantysilio Ch. **Valley of the Dee. Llandegla Ch. Llanarmon in Yale Ch. (chandelier). Efenechtyd Ch. Antiquities in Pool Park.
Pentrevoelas. Inscribed Pillar. **Pont Glyn. *Ysppyty Evan Ch. and Monastery.
Llanrwst. Cromlech at Capel Garmon. **Ch. and Gwydir Chapel. Inigo Jones's Bridge. Gwydir House and Grounds.
Llanrhaiadr. *Ch. Jesse window.
Denbigh. **Castle. Howell's College. Burgesses' Gate. *Whitechurch (Sir Hugh Myddleton's tomb). Earl of Leicester's Ch. Grounds of Gwaenynog. *New Ch. at Trefnant. Bwrdd Arthur, near Llansannan. Scenery of the Aled. *Waterfalls. Llyn Aled.
Ruthin. *Ch. Castle. Mill. Llanfwrog Ch. Camps on Moel Ffenlli. *View from Moel Famman.
Gwytherin. Ch. Box of St. Winifred. Upright Stones.
Abergele. Camps. Gwrych Castle. Llysfaen Mount. Llanelian Well.

4. FLINTSHIRE.

St. Asaph. *Cathedral. *Cefn Caves. *Well at Wigfair. *New Ch. at Bodelwyddan. Monument in Tremeirchion Ch. Camp at Bodfari. Talargoch Lead-mines. ✓
Rhuddlan. *Castle. Priory Ch. Dysarth Castle. Siambr Wen.
Rhyl. Sands. Newmarket. Tumulus.
Pantasa. Roman Catholic Ch. *Pharos on Garreg Mountain. Maen Achwyfan.
Mostyn. *Hall. *Downing. Point of Air Lighthouse.
Holywell. Ch. **Well. *Basingwerk Abbey.
Flint. **Castle. Halkin Mountain. Moel-y-gaer. *Northop Ch. Ewloe Castle. *Hawarden Castle and Ch. **Mold Ch. Maes Garmon. *Tower. *Caergwrle Castle. Hope Ch. (monument). Colomendy. Loggerheads. **Cileain Ch. *Hesp Alyn. Penbedw.

Caerwys. Roman streets.

Overton. *Views over the Dee.

Holt. Ch.

Hanmer. Ch. Village and Mere.

5. CAERNARVONSHIRE.

Conway. *Ch. **Castle. *Walls. *Plas Mawr. The College. Tubular Bridge. Gyffin Ch. View from hill above Benarth. *Castell Diganwy. *Falls of the Porthllwyd and Afon Ddu at Dol-y-garrog. Llyn Geirionydd. Caerhun.

Llandudno. **Great Orme's Head. Llandudno old Ch. Telegraph Station. Copper-mines. Gogarth. Little Orme's Head. Glodd-aeth. Llandrillo-yn-rhos Ch.

Penmaen Mawr. Castell Caer Seion. Braich-y-dinas.

Aber. **Waterfalls. Ancient road to Caerhun.

Bangor. *Penrhyn Castle. *Cathedral. Port Penrhyn. *View from hill at back of Penrhyn Arms. *Llandegai Ch. and village. **Penrhyn Quarries.

***Menai Bridge.* **Tubular Bridge.

Port Dinorwig.

Caernarvon. **Castle. *Twthill. *Walls. Inscribed Stone at Llanrug. *Llanbeblig Ch. Site of Segontium. Inscribed Stone at Llanfaglan Ch. Antiquities on banks of the Gwrfai.

Clynnog. *Ch. Cromlech. Waterfall. *Dinas Dinlle.

Nantlle. *Lakes. **Drws-y-Coed. Copper-mines and Slate-quarries.

Pwllheli. *Beach. Carreg-y-Wimbill. Coast scenery at Mynydd Cilan. *Llanengan Ch. and Screen. Inscribed Stone at Llangian. *Carn Madryn. Carn Boduan. Llanor Inscribed Stones. Bardsey Island. *Aberdaron old Ch. Bodwrdda. Castell Odo. *Llangwnadl Ch. *Cefn Amwlch Cromlech. *Nevin.* Porth-dinllaen. **Yr Eifl. *Tre'r Caeri. *Nant Gwrtheyrn.

Abererch. Ch.

Criccieth. *Castle. Dolbenmaen and Cromlechs.

Tremadoc. Penmorfa Ch. *Porthmadoc Embankment and Slate-wharf.

Beddgelert. Ch. *Moel Hebog. **Pont Aberglaslyn. *Dinas Emrys. **Llyn Dinas and Llyn Gwynant. *Llyn Cwellyn. Nant Mill.

***Snowdon.* **Pass of Llanberis. *Waterfall of Ceunant Mawr. *Llanberis Ch. *Slate-quarries. *Dolbadarn. Caer-carreg-y-fran. Dinas Dinorwig. Llys Dinorwig. Camps. *Nant Gwynant. *Llyn Llydaw.

Capel Curig. *Moel Siabod. *Dolwyddelan Castle. **Rhaiadr Wenol. *Fors Noddyn. **Bettws-y-coed. Pont-y-pair. **Falls of the Conway. Falls of the Machno. *Glyder Fawr. Trifaen. **Llyn Idwal. **Llyn Ogwen. **Falls of the Ogwen. Carnedds Davydd and Llewelyn. Nant Ffrancon.

6. MERIONETHSHIRE.

Corwen. *Ch. (Effigy of Sulien ap Iorwerth). Moel Ferna. Caer Drewyn. Rûg. Waterfall on the Trystion. **Vale of Edeyrnion. *Llandderfel Ch. and Screen.

Tanybwlch. **Mrs. Oakley's Grounds. **Slate-quarries of Ffestiniog. Llyn Edno and Adar. *Moelwyn. *Cynicht. *View from Ffestiniog Ch. Bedd gwyr Ardudwy. **Falls of the Cynfael. **Rhaiadr Cwm. Castell Tomen-y-mur.

Maentwrog. *Rhaiadr-ddu. *Raven Fall.

Bala. *Lake. Arenig Mountains. Llanuwchllyn Ch. and Monument. Caergai. *Aran Mowddu. **Cwm Twrch. *Pennant and Vale of Dyfi. Vale of the Hirnant.

Barmouth. **Llanaber Ch. **Scenery of the Mawddach.

Harlech. **Castle. Llandanwg Ch. *Llanddwye Ch. *Llanbedr. *Cors-y-gedol. *Vale of Arfro. **Bwlch-y-Tyddiad. *Bwlch Drws Ardudwy. **Cwm Bychan. Antiquities on Llawlech. Llanvihangel-y-Traethau Inscribed Stone.

Dolgelley. *Cymmer Abbey. Parliament House. **Torrent Walk in grounds of Caerynweh. **Cader Idris. **Valley of the Mawddach. *Nannau. Moel Orthwm. **Falls on the Cain, Mawddach, and Camlan. Bedd Porus. Rhiwgoch. Castell Prysor.

***Tal-y-Llyn.* **Llyn-y-Cae. Llanvihangel-y-Pennant Ch. (monument). Castell Bere. *Craig Aderyn. *Llanegryn Ch. Llys Bradwen. Camps near Llwyngwrl.

***Towyn* Ch. and Stone. *Aberdovey. Corris Slate-quarries. Pennal (Roman traces). **Dinas Mowddwy. *Mallwyd. **Waterfalls on the Dyfi.

7. MONTGOMERYSHIRE.

Llanfyllin. Ch. Camps in the neighbourhood. Llansantfraid Ch. *Meifod Ch. Remains at Mathrafal (Mediolanum).

Castell Caer Einion. Tumulus.

Guilfield. Ch. and Camps.

Welshpool. *Ch. **Powis Castle and Park. Leighton Hall and new Ch. Buttington. Font in Ch. **Breidden Hills and Rodney's Pillar. Long Mountain. Caer Digol. Offa's Dyke. Berriw. Maen Beuno. Moat at Nanteribba.

Montgomery. *Ch. and Castle. Fridd Faldwyn Camp. *Lymore Park.

Newtown. *Old Ch. *Screen in new Ch. Kerry Ch. Castell Dolforwyn. Bettws Cedewen.

Llanbrynmair. *Waterfalls. Scenery of Twymyn and Ial.

Caersŷs. *Roman remains. Llandinam Ch.

Llanidloes. **Ch. Source of the Severn. *Plinlymmon.

***Machynlleth.* Parliament House. Llanwrin Ch. *Waterfall on Llyffinant. *Llyn Penrhaiadr. Llyn Bugeilyn.

Llangynog. Berwyn Mountains. **Pennant Melangell Ch. Scenery of the Tanat.

8. ANGLESEA.

Beaumaris. **Castle. *Ch. Hen Blas. *Baron Hill. *Llanfaes Ch. and remains of Priory. **Penmon Priory. *Puffin Island. Llaniestyn Ch. *Bwrdd Arthur. Pentraeth. Castell Lleiniog. *Anglesea Monument. *Penmynydd Ch. and Monastery. Llangaffo new Ch. *Antiquities at Llanidan. *Cromlech at Plas Newydd. Llanddwyn Abbey. *Newborough Ch. Stone at

Brondêg. Llangefni Ch. **Llangadwaladr Ch. (stained glass)
 Llyn Coron. *Bodorgan Gardens. *Aberfraw Ch. *Llangwyfan Ch.
Holyhead. **Harbour of Refuge and Quarries. Port and Pier.
 **Telegraph Station. *Caer Gybi. **Stack Rocks and Lighthouse. **Ch. Stanley Embankment.
Llanerchymedd. Ch. Rocking-stone at Llwydiarth.
Llantrisant. Tomb of Bronwen. Llyn Llywean. Cromlech at Presaddfed.
Amlwch. *Port. **Parys Mountain. Copper-works and Mines.
 Llanbadrig. Llan Lleiana. *Coast Scenery at Cemmaes. Llanellian Ch. and Well. *Llanllewenllyfo Ch. and Brass. Point Lynas Lighthouse. **Llanallgo Ch. (grave of persons drowned in the wreck of the 'Royal Charter'). *Moelfre Bay. Cromlech. Llaneugrad. Pigeon-house. Llanfair Mathafarn-eithaf Cross.

X. SKELETON ROUTES.

A. TOUR OF ONE MONTH,

starting from Chester.

1. Chester: see Rows, Walls, Cathedral. In afternoon to Eaton Hall by road or water.
2. Rail to Holywell: see Well and Basingwerk Abbey; go on to Rhyl: see Rhuddlan; sleep at Rhyl.
3. Excursion to Denbigh by rail. Drive back to St. Asaph by way of Cefn, and, if time, to Abergele by Bodelwyddan. Take train in evening from Abergele to Llandudno.
4. Orme's Head. Llandudno. Afternoon, see Castle and town of Conway.
5. By rail to Bettws-y-Coed, and Capel Curig by coach. Afternoon, ascend Moel Siabod, or visit Castle Dolwyddelan.
6. Llyn Ogwen, Llyn Idwal, Penrhyn Slate Quarries. From Capel Curig the coach, en route for Bangor, will pass these places.
7. Bangor Cathedral. Llandegai Ch.
8. Penrhyn Castle. Aber Waterfall.
9. Excursion to Beaumaris and on to Penmon Priory and Puffin Island. Menai Bridge and Britannia Bridge.
10. Excursion by rail to Holyhead.
11. Rail from Holyhead to Caernarvon—Castle and town. In afternoon to Llanberis.
12. Ascend Snowdon and down to Beddgelert. In evening excursion up Nant Gwynant or Drws-y-coed.
13. Beddgelert; by coach to Porthmadoc (passing Pont Aberglaslyn), and on by rail to Criccieth and Pwllheli.
14. To Nevin. Ascend Yr Eifl. Visit Clynnog Ch., and in afternoon back to Caernarvon.
15. By coach from Caernarvon, viâ Llanberis, up the Pass, Capel Curig, Pentrevoelas, Corwen, and by rail to Llangollen. Ascend Dinas Bran.
16. By rail to Chirk and Ruabon (Wynnstay); back to Llangollen.

17. Visit Valle Crucis. By rail to Corwen. Drive through the Vale of Eleyrnion to Bala.
18. Bala to Ffestiniog (no conveyance). Rhaiadr Cwm. Falls of the Cynfael. Slate-quarries. Tanybwlech.
19. Tanybwlech by rail to Harlech. Visit Cwm Bychan; in evening to Barmouth.
20. Barmouth to Dolgelley. Visit Cymmer and Valley of the Mawddach.
21. Ascend Cader Idris. Visit the Torrent Walk.
22. Dolgelley to Tal-y-Llyn and Towyn.
23. Towyn to Aberdovey by rail. On across the Ferry or by rail to Aberystwith.
24. Aberystwith. Devil's Bridge. Hafod, if time.
25. Aberystwith by rail to Machynlleth, and post on to Mallwyd and Oswestry, or from Mallwyd to Cemmaes Road, where the train may be taken to Welshpool.
26. From Oswestry by rail to Welshpool. Visit Powis Castle and Breidden Hills, or excursion to Montgomery.
27. Welshpool to Shrewsbury. Visit the Churches, &c.
28. Excursion to Wroxeter. In afternoon leave Shrewsbury.

B. TOUR OF SEVEN WEEKS,

commencing at Shrewsbury.

1. Shrewsbury. Visit town. Afternoon to Wroxeter.
2. By rail to Chirk and Ruabon (Wynnstay), and sleep at Wrexham.
3. See Wrexham Ch. Gresford Ch. and to Chester. See city.
4. Chester. Cathedral, &c. Afternoon, Eaton Hall.
5. Excursion by rail to Mold. Visit Ch.; Tower. Drive or walk through Northop to Flint, and back by rail.
6. Visit Holywell by rail. Basingwerk. Mostyn Hall or Downing to Rhyl.
7. Excursion by rail to Rhuddlan. Dyserth. St. Asaph and Denbigh. Visit Cefn Caves en route.
8. By rail to Ruthin. Ascend Moel Famman.
9. By rail to Corwen. Pentrevoelas. Bettws-y-Coed and Llanrwst.
10. Visit Ch. Gwydir House. Waterfalls. By rail to Conway.
11. Excursion to Abergele by rail. Afternoon to Llandudno.
12. Great Orme's Head or Penmaen Mawr. Aber Waterfall. In evening to Bangor.
13. Cathedral. Penrhyn Castle. Slate Quarries of Bethesda.
14. Excursion to Dinas Dinorwig and Pentir.
15. Excursion to Beaumaris viâ Menai Bridge. See Tubular Bridge. Sleep at Beaumaris.
16. Excursion to Penmon. Puffin Island. Pentraeth.
17. From Menai Bridge by rail to Amlwch. See Parys Mountain.
18. To Holyhead by rail.
19. Visit Llangadwaladr Ch. Aberfraw, Newborough, Llangwyfan, and across the ferry to Caernarvon.
20. Caernarvon. Afternoon to Llanberis. Slate Quarries.
21. Ascend Snowdon and down to Capel Curig.

22. Capel Curig. Rhaiadr Wenol. Falls of the Conway. Dolwyddelan. Home by Moel Siabod.
23. Visit Llyn Ogwen. Llyn Idwal. Ascend Carnedd Llewelyn. Pass of Llanberis.
24. Nantgwynant. Beddgelert. In afternoon, if time, ascend Moel Hebog.
- 25 to 27. By coach to Tremadoc, and on by rail to Pwllheli.
28. Excursion into Llyn. Aberdaron or Carn Madryn.
29. To Nevin. Ascend Yr Eifl. Clynnog Ch. Sleep at Clynnog.
30. To Nantlle Lakes, and back to Caernarvon by Llyn Cwellyn.
31. By coach to Tanybwch. Ffestiniog. Waterfalls.
32. Slate Quarries. Afternoon to Harlech.
33. Excursion to Cwm Bychan and Bwlch-y-Tyddiad.
34. Visit Llanaber. Barmouth. Llaneltyd and Dolgelley.
35. Visit Mawddach Valley. Waterfalls. Nannau.
36. Cader Idris. Torrent Walk.
37. By coach to Bala. Vale of Edeyrnion. Corwen. And by rail to Llangollen.
38. Valle Crucis. Castle Dinas Bran.
39. To Oswestry. Llanfyllin. Llanrhaiadr.
40. Pistyll Rhaiadr. Llangynog. Pennant Melangell. Over the Berwyns to Bala.
41. By Bwlch-y-groes to Dinas Mowddwy, Mallwyd, and Machynlleth, or else sleep at
42. Mallwyd, and up the Ceryst to Tal-y-Llyn, Llanegryn, and Towyn.
43. To Aberdovey and Aberystwith.
44. Aberystwith. Hafod. Devil's Bridge.
45. Plinlymmon.
46. To Llanidloes. See Ch. By rail to Newtown. Visit Old and New Ch.
47. Visit Montgomery. Afternoon to Welshpool.
48. Breiddens. Powis Castle. Excursion to Guilsfield.
49. To Shrewsbury.

The Sundays should be spent at Rhyl (for St. Asaph), Bangor, Caernarvon or Llanberis, Beddgelert, Barmouth or Dolgelley, Bala, Welshpool.

C. PEDESTRIAN TOUR OF ONE MONTH,

commencing at Ruabon Station.

1. Arrive at Ruabon. Walk to Llangollen. Visit Aqueduct and Castle Dinas Bran.
2. Walk to Valle Crucis. Climb the hill at the back, and follow the path to Craig Aderyn, and thence to the turnpike-road at Bwlch Rhiwfelyn, and on to Ruthin; about 17 m.
3. Ruthin. Ascend Moel Fammau from Bwlch-pen-Barras, descending by Llangynhaval, and on to Denbigh; 14 m. (rail to St. Asaph and back by Cefn, if time).
4. Denbigh to Llanrwst, through Llansannan and Gwytherin, across the valleys of the Aled and Elwy; 18 m.

5. Visit Llanrwst. Gwydir. Take coach to the Waterfalls and walk to Conway, or else walk to the Falls and coach to Conway, and on to Llandudno.
6. Walk to Penmaen Mawr and Aber Falls; about 19 m. By rail to Bangor.
7. Rest.
8. To Menai Bridge; Beaumaris. In afternoon, walk to Penmon and Puffin Island; 16 m.
9. Return to Bangor by ferry. Visit Penrhyn Quarries, and over Carnedd Ffiliast to Llanberis; say 12 m.
10. Llanberis to Capel Curig. Ascend Moel Siabod.
11. See Rhaiadr Wenol. Bettws-y-Coed. Dolwyddelan Castle; and back to Capel Curig by the short route; 18 m.
12. Ascend Carnedd Davydd. Visit Llyn Idwal, and over the hill to Llanberis. About 12 m.; but very heavy work.
13. Ascend Snowdon, and come down to Beddgelert; 11 m.
14. Rest.
15. Walk through Drws-y-coed and Nantlle to Clynnog; about 16 m. In evening to Caernarvon, or else take the train from Penygroes.
16. Walk or take coach to Beddgelert. Ascend Moel Hebog, and down on the other side to Pwllheli.
17. Ascend Yr Eifl, and back by Nevin.
18. By coach to Tanybwlech. Slate Quarries. Waterfalls.
19. By Cwm Bychan to Harlech and on to Barmouth.
20. Rest.
21. To Dolgelley. Visit Waterfalls in Mawddach Valley.
22. Cader Idris. Descend to Llyn-y-Cae and Tal-y-Llyn.
23. From Tal-y-Llyn to Machynlleth; 11 m.
24. To Mallwyd and Dinas Mowddwy; 13 m.
25. Ascend Aran Mowddwy, through Bwlech-y-groes to Bala; 20 m.
26. Over the Berwyns to Llanrhaiadr. See Pistyll Rhaiadr; 16 m.
27. To Llanfyllin. Guilsfield. Welshpool.
28. Rest.
29. Breidden Hills to Shrewsbury.
30. Wroxeter.

D. ANTIQUARIAN AND ECCLESIOLOGICAL TOUR OF ONE MONTH.

1. Chester Cathedral. Crypts. St. John's. Rows. Walls.
2. Mold Ch. Tower. Maes Garmon. Ewloo Castle. Northop Ch. Flint Castle. Go on to Holywell.
3. Holywell. Basingwerk. Garreg Mountain. Tumuli at Orsedd. Maen Achwyfan. Gop Tumulus. Dyserth Castle and Ch. Go on to Rhyl.
4. Rhuddlan Castle and Priory. St. Asaph Cathedral. Trefnant New Ch. Ffynnon Wygfair. Denbigh.
5. Denbigh Castle, &c. Whitechurch. Llanrhaiadr Ch. Ruthin Ch. and Mill.
6. Camps on Clwydian Hills. Cilcain Ch. Llanrhyd Ch.
7. Llandegla Ch. Tomen. Eliseg's Pillar. Valle Crucis Abbey. Castell Dinas Bran.

8. Llangollen Ch. Corwen Ch. Pentrevoelas Inscribed Stone. (Yspytty Evan Ch.). Cromlech at Capel Garmon. Llanrwst.
9. Llanrwst Ch. Bridge. Gwydir. Cromlechs. Caerhun. Conway.
10. Conway. Llandudno. Antiquities on Orme's Head. Castle Diganwy.
11. Antiquities on Penmaen Mawr. Aber.
12. Bangor. Llandegai. Dinas Dinorwig.
13. Beaumaris Ch. Castle. Castle Lleinog. Penmon.
14. Penmynydd. Antiquities on the Braint. Cromlechs. Newborough.
15. Llangadwaladr Ch. Aberfraw. Llangwyfan Ch. To Holyhead.
16. Caer Gybi. Holyhead Ch. To Caernarvon.
17. Castle. Walls. Segontium. Llanfaglan. Inscribed Stone.
18. Clynnog. Tre'r Ceiri. Pwllheli.
19. Llangian Ch. Llanengan Ch. Aberdaron Ch.
20. Llangwnadl Ch. Cefn Amwlch Cromlech. Carn Madryn. Back to Pwllheli.
21. Criccieth. Dolbenmaen. Beddgelert.
22. Excursion to Llanberis. Dolbadarn.
23. To Ffestiniog. Sarn Helen. Beddau. Heriri Mons.
24. Harlech. Bwlch-y-Tyddiad. Drws Ardudwy.
25. Llanaber. Barmouth. Dolgelley. Cymmer.
26. Llwyngwrl Camps. Towyn Ch.
27. Pennal. Machynlleth. Aberystwith. Llanbadarn Vawr Ch.
28. Llanidloes Ch. Newtown old and new Ch.
29. Montgomery Ch. and Castle. Camps. Welshpool.
30. Powis Castle. Mathrafal. Meifod. Oswestry.
31. Ruabon Ch. Whittington. Wrexham. Gresford Ch.

E. A FORTNIGHT'S TOUR,

arriving at Beaumaris from Liverpool by Steamer.

1. Beaumaris. Baron Hill. Tubular Bridge. Menai Bridge. Bangor.
2. Penrhyn. Slate Quarries. Nant Ffrancon. Llyn Idwal. Llyn Ogwen. Capel Curig.
3. Bettws-y-Coed. Rhaiadr Wenol. Llanrwst. Ascend Moel Siabod.
4. Capel Curig. Pass of Llanberis. Caernarvon.
5. Caernarvon to Beddgelert. Ascend Snowdon.
6. Tremadoc. Tanybwlch. Slate Quarries. Ffestiniog. Falls.
7. Harlech. Barmouth to Dolgelley.
8. Mawddach Valley Waterfalls. Cymmer.
9. Cader Idris. Torrent Walk.
10. To Machynlleth, and from thence to Mallwyd.
11. Mallwyd to Bala and Vale of Edeyrnion to Corwen. Pont-y-glyn.
12. Llangollen. Valle Crucis. Pont Cysylltau.

F. A WEEK'S WALK THROUGH SNOWDONIA.

1. Arrive at Aber. Visit Waterfalls. Ascend Carnedd Llewelyn. Descend to Capel Curig.
 2. Over Moel Siabod to Dolwyddelan, and cross by Llyn-yr-Adar into Llyn Gwynant, and to Beddgelert.
 3. Snowdon. Descend to Llanberis. Evening to Caernarvon.
- [*N. Wales.*]

4. To Clynnog. Ascend Yr Eifl. Descend to Pwllheli.
5. By rail to Criccieth. Ascend Moel Hebog, and descend to Beddgelert.
6. To Tanybwlech. Ascend Moelwyn.
7. Walk from Ffestiniog to Bala. Take rail to Ruabon.

G. PEDESTRIAN TOUR OF THREE WEEKS,

*starting from Aberystwith, for Tourists coming from Herefordshire
or South Wales.*

1. Aberystwith to Machynlleth by Llyn Penrhaiadr.
2. Machynlleth to Dinas Mowddwy.
3. Dinas Mowddwy to Tal-y-Llyn.
4. Over Cader Idris to Dolgelley. Torrent Walk.
5. To Barmouth and Harlech.
6. Cwm Bychan. Over the hills to Maentwrog.
7. Slate-quarries. Moelwyn. Tanybwlech.
8. To Beddgelert by old road. Nant Gwynant to Penygroes.
9. Ascend Snowdon. Descend to Llanberis.
10. To Caernarvon.
11. By rail to Bangor. Beaumaris. Puffin Island.
12. Bangor to Penrhyn Quarries and Capel Curig.
13. Bettws-y-Coed. Falls of Conway. Llanrwst.
14. Conway and Llandudno.
15. By rail to St. Asaph. Walk to Denbigh by Cefn.
16. Rail to Ruthin. Walk to Llangollen.
17. Llangollen. In afternoon to Corwen.
18. By Llandrillo, over the Berwyns, to Pistyll Rhaiadr.
19. To Oswestry or Welshpool, and on to Shrewsbury.

HANDBOOK

FOR

NORTH WALES.

ROUTES.

*** The names of places are printed in *italics* only in those routes where the *places* are described.

ROUTE	PAGE	ROUTE	PAGE
1. <i>Shrewsbury</i> to <i>Chester</i> , by <i>Ruabon</i> and <i>Wrexham</i> — Great Western Rly.	2	16. <i>Pwllheli</i> to <i>Bardsey Island</i> , by <i>Nevin</i> and <i>Aberdaron</i>	105
2. <i>Whittington Junct.</i> to <i>Whit- church Junct.</i> , by <i>Tillesh- mere</i> —Rail	16	17. <i>Caernarvon</i> to <i>Capel Curig</i> , by <i>Llamberis</i> and <i>Penygwryd</i> — Ascent of <i>Snowdon</i>	108
3. <i>Ruabon Junct.</i> to <i>Dolgelley</i> , by <i>Llangollen</i> , <i>Corwen</i> , and <i>Bala</i> —Rail and Coach	17	18. <i>Penygwryd</i> to <i>Beddgelert</i> , by <i>Nant Gwynant</i>	118
4. <i>Chester</i> to <i>Bangor</i> , by <i>Flint</i> , <i>Abergele</i> , and <i>Conway</i> —Rail.	27	19. <i>Caernarvon</i> to <i>Tanybwelch</i> , by <i>Beddgelert</i> , <i>Tremadoc</i> , and <i>Porthmadoc</i>	120
5. <i>Abergele</i> to <i>Denbigh</i> , by <i>Bettws</i> , and <i>Llanfair Talhaiarn</i> — Pedestrian	48	20. <i>Porthmadoc</i> to <i>Ffestiniog Quar- ries</i> , by Rail— <i>Moelwyn</i>	126
6. <i>Conway</i> to <i>Llandudno</i> and the <i>Orme's Head</i>	49	21. <i>Tanybwelch</i> to <i>Oswestry</i> , by <i>Ffestiniog</i> , <i>Bala</i> , and <i>Llan- rhaidr</i>	128
7. <i>Bangor</i> to <i>Holyhead</i> , by <i>Menai Bridge</i> —Rail	51	22. <i>Tanybwelch</i> to <i>Machynlleth</i> , by <i>Maentwrog</i> , <i>Trawsfynydd</i> , and <i>Dolgelley</i> — <i>Cader Idris</i>	133
8. <i>Menai Bridge</i> to <i>Beaumaris</i> , <i>Penmon</i> , and <i>Amlwch</i> , by E. Coast of Anglesea	64	23. <i>Dolgelley</i> to <i>Dinas Mowddwy</i> by Road, and to <i>Cemmaes</i> Road Junct. by Rail	141
9. <i>Gaerwen Junct.</i> to <i>Amlwch</i> , by Anglesea Central Rly.	70	24. <i>Pwllheli</i> to <i>Dolgelley</i> , by <i>Porth- madoc</i> , <i>Harlech</i> , and <i>Bar- mouth</i> —Rail.	143
10. <i>Chester</i> to <i>Ruthin</i> , by <i>Mold</i> —Rail and Coach	73	25. <i>Dolgelley</i> to <i>Machynlleth</i> , by <i>Towy</i> and <i>Aberdovey</i> —Rail; on to <i>Llanidloes</i> , by Road.	150
11. <i>Corwen</i> to <i>Rhyl</i> , by <i>Ruthin</i> , <i>Denbigh</i> , and <i>St. Asaph</i>	77	26. <i>Oswestry</i> to <i>Machynlleth</i> , by <i>Llanfair</i> and <i>Mallwyd</i>	155
12. <i>Conway</i> to <i>Bangor</i> , by <i>Llan- wrst</i> , <i>Bettws-y-coed</i> , and <i>Capel Curig</i> —Rail and Coach	85	27. <i>Oswestry</i> to <i>Llanidloes</i> , by <i>Welshpool (Llanfyllin)</i> and <i>Newtown</i> —Rail; and on to <i>Aberystwith</i> by Road.	159
13. <i>Bettws-y-coed</i> to <i>Corwen</i> , by <i>Pentrevoelas</i>	95	28. <i>Shrewsbury</i> to <i>Aberystwith</i> , by <i>Welshpool</i> , <i>Newtown</i> , and <i>Machynlleth</i> —Rail	167
14. <i>Bangor</i> to <i>Pwllheli</i> , by <i>Cuer- narvon</i> —Rail	96		
15. <i>Caernarvon</i> to <i>Pwllheli</i> , by <i>Clynnog</i> —Road	102		

ROUTE 1.

SHREWSBURY TO CHESTER, BY RUABON AND WREXHAM—GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY.

Shrewsbury, capital of Shropshire, and a borough town sending 2 representatives to Parliament. (*Hotels*: Raven, first class;—Lion; George; both good.) Wales may well be approached by the Severn-girded Shrewsbury, one of the most beautiful and still among the most important of the frontier towns. Here lived Telford, whose road to Holyhead yet invites and charms the traveller, and here converging railways place him in immediate communication with many parts of the principality, whose border he may cross forthwith, or skirt for a long distance, as his taste directs or convenience serves. The *Station*, a handsome Tudor building near the Castle, stands in a picturesque position, with the river winding below it, and the spires of St. Mary and St. Alkmund crowning the height on rt. The square red tower seen from the end of the platform is that of the Abbey ch. of St. Peter and St. Paul, whose mitred abbots sat before the Reformation in the House of Lords. From the station the chief objects of interest in the town may be conveniently visited in a short time.

The antiquity of Shrewsbury is considerable, and its British name (Pen-gwern, "the head of the Alderwood") indicates its position above the fertile meadow-lands which were then covered with trees and bushes. Its Saxon name "Scrobesbyrig" is evidently of the same derivation. Fortified by a diversion of the Severn, which probably was a work of Cyndelan (Cyndelan Powis porpilar, "the purple-bearer of Powis," as the noble bard Llywarch Hên calls him), it was the capital of the Powis

princes between the destruction of Vronium and the time of King Offa. After the Norman conquest it was the earldom of Roger de Montgomery, by whom the castle, commanding the only land approach to the town, was erected. The Parliament which passed the statute still known as the Statute of Acton Burnell was held here in the time of King Edward I.: the name being derived from the neighbouring and still extant residence of Acton Burnell, where it is supposed the royal assent was given. And here, to the Parliament adjourned from Westminster, came "old John of Gaunt, time-honour'd Lancaster," and Henry of Hereford, his "bad son,"—

"Here to make good the boisterous late appeal
Against the Duke of Norfolk, Thomas
Mowbray."

In 1403 the battle between the forces of the same Henry of Hereford, then King of England, and those of Hotspur and his confederates, took place on the plain about 3 m. distant, under the skirts of Haughmond Hill. The spot is still called Battlefield; and a ch. there, restored in 1863, bears the same appellation. The pestilence called the "sweating sickness," so terrible in the 16th centy., broke out first, as it is said, in this town.

Shrewsbury is a corporate town, possessing various ancient charters from the time of William I. to James II., and continues to give the title of earl to the lineal descendants of the great John Talbot, who was brought to be buried at Whitechurch (Rte. 2) from the field of Châtillon.

Shrewsbury is situated on a peninsula of rising ground, encircled by the Severn on all sides but the N., and locally termed "the Island:" in fact, so nearly do the windings of the river approach each other, that the isthmus is only 300 yards in breadth:—

“Edita Penguerni late fastigia splendent
 Urbs sita lunato veluti mediamnis in orbe,
 Colle tumet modico, duplici quoque ponte
 superbit
 Accipiens patriâ sibi linguâ nomen ab alnis.”

The main approaches are by 2 bridges on the E. and N.W. called respectively the English and Welsh Bridges. The former, erected in 1769, at a cost of 15,000*l.*, is a handsome structure of 7 arches surmounted by an open balustrade, though the elevation is remarkable from the height of the central arch, which was constructed thus to allow of the great volume of water brought down in rainy weather. The Welsh Bridge, across which runs the “reddie way” to Wales, has little remarkable in its architecture, but replaces an old one pulled down in the last centy., on which was a picturesque gateway tower, of which many engravings are extant.

The Castle stands on the isthmus, and is conspicuous from its lofty position, “builte in such a brave plott that it could have espyed a byrd flying in every streete,” and from the deep red colour of the buildings, though its architecture, except in some of the outer walls, is considerably modernized. It is rented by its present inhabitant (Rev. G. Downward) from the proprietor, the Duke of Cleveland, and contains nothing remarkable but the turret in the garden, overlooking the river, and first meeting the eye of the stranger as he arrives at the station. This was the work of Telford, for Sir W. Pulteney, his early patron, and former proprietor of the place.

The prospect from the Castle, however, is magnificent, embracing the blue ridges of the Norman Mons Gilberti, the Saxon and English Wrekin, in which the name of Vr-ikon, “City of Iconium,” whose ashes moulder beneath its slopes, is verbally enshrined; the South Shropshire hills, along whose val-

ley and sides went the last battle of Caractacus, the beautiful Breidden, “hills of the robbers,” in the mother tongue, but now tenanted by small farms, and surmounted by a pillar in honour of Lord Rodney’s victory, with the Berwyns and the Welsh ranges rising in terraces to the W. Nearer to the N. and E. are the more modest eminences of Grinshill, Hawkstone, and Haughmond, rising from a rich and well-watered country, rivalling Yorkshire, till within these few years, in the excellence of its horses. The earthquake which shook Shropshire and North Wales 10 or 12 years since was particularly felt at Grinshill and the Wrekin.

The *Town Walls* were first commenced by Roger Belesme, son of Earl Roger de Montgomery, and were afterwards finished by Henry III. to protect the inhabitants from the incursions of the Welsh. A small portion only remains on the S. side of the town, where they are in good preservation, and form an agreeable promenade. Here also is a square tower of 2 stories of the same date, the only one remaining out of 20 which formerly strengthened and defended the walls. The fortifications were for the most part destroyed in 1645, when the town yielded to the Parliamentary troops under Gen. Mytton.

The churches are interesting, particularly that of *St. Mary*, a noble pile of building in the centre of the town, whose lofty spire (220 ft.) serves as a landmark for many a mile around. It is a cruciform ch., of various styles of architecture, and containing a nave, side aisles, chancel, transepts, and 2 chantry chapels. The basement of the tower is Norm., as are also the S. and N. porches of the nave and the doorways of the N. and S. transepts, which are ornamented with lozenge and chevron mouldings. In the S. porch observe the pointed windows of the side, as examples of rudimentary mullions. The

E. Eng. style is visible in the beautiful lancet windows of the transepts. Those of the clerestory are Perp., as are also the pointed windows in the S. chapel, and the large one of 8 lights at the end of the chancel. The spire is octagonal, and said to be the 3rd highest in the kingdom. Internally Norm. semicircular arches separate the nave from the aisles, springing from elegant clustered columns of later date. Similar arches lead from the aisles to the transepts and also to the chapels. The ceiling is oak, beautifully fretted and carved with flowers and figures. In the nave is a decorated pulpit of Caen stone, representing incidents in the life of Christ. One of the chief beauties of the ch. arises from the profusion of its stained glass. The large E. window (which once belonged to the Franciscan Friary, the gift of Sir John de Charlton, circ. 1350) is occupied with the genealogy of Christ from the Root of Jesse, in which the patriarch is reclining in sleep, while from his loins a stem ascends, enclosing in its branches a king or prophet belonging to the series, which numbers altogether 47 figures. In the N. transept is a memorial window to the Rev. J. Blakeway, to whom a decorated altar-tomb has been erected close by. There is a lancet window on the N. side of the altar, with scenes in the life of St. Bernard; and a 3-light window of the Crucifixion on the N. side of the baptistery. In the S. transept is a memorial window to Rev. W. Rowland, formerly vicar and a munificent restorer of this ch. The Trinity Chapel contains a fine organ by Byfield, 1729; a mutilated cross-legged knight on an altar-tomb of the 14th cent., supposed to be the effigy of one of the Leyburnes, Lords of Berwick; and a monument in marble by Chantrey to Dr. Butler, head-master of the school and Bishop of Lichfield. There is also one by

Westmacott to Brig.-Gen. Cureton within the area of the tower, and in the baptistery is a monument to Admiral Benbow, a native of the town. St. Mary's Church was originally collegiate, having a dean and 9 canons, and at its suppression the revenue was given by Edward VI. for the maintenance of Shrewsbury school.

A short distance S. is *St. Alkmund's Ch.*, also collegiate, and said to have been founded in 912, by Ethelfleda, daughter of Alfred the Great. It was once a venerable cruciform ch., but was taken down in 1794, leaving only the tower and graceful spire. The remainder of the building is in the churchwardens' style of the last cent.

Almost adjoining St. Alkmund's is the ancient Norm. ch. of *St. Julian*. It was demolished in 1750 and the present structure erected, though considerably altered again in 1846. The most ancient portion of the ch. is the basement of the tower; the main body being also in the churchwardens' style. In the interior is a gravestone with an inscription of the 13th cent. on its rounded edge, in memory of Edward Trounwyn, a member of a family living in the time of Edward II.

Old St. Chad's, situated near the town walls, was founded originally about 780, by one of the Mercian kings, on the site of a palace of a Prince of Powis, and was said to have been a very fine building of the reign of Henry III. It was much damaged by fire in 1293, and finally gave way in 1788, in consequence of some of the pillars yielding. The former catastrophe was owing to a plumber working in the ch.; the records of the inquest upon him stating that, while endeavouring to flee the conflagration he had caused "contra voluntatem suam, demissus fuit in quodam stagno fluminis Sabrine, et sic mortuus fuit." The small portion which remains was almost entirely rebuilt in 1571, and is now used as a chapel

for the cemetery, which contains the graves of some of the most distinguished Salopian families.

New St. Chad's, some distance W., built 1792, is chiefly remarkable for its situation at the head of the Quarry Avenue, and for the very questionable taste of the architectural details. The body of the ch. is formed by the intersections of 2 circles, at the E. end of which is a Doric portico and tower, the sole feature which prevents the building being mistaken for a theatre or exchange. It contains some stained memorial windows, and a monument to the memory of the members of the 53rd regt. who fell at the battle of Sobraon. Notwithstanding its extraordinary appearance, *New St. Chad's* is considered *the* ch. of Shrewsbury.

Across the English Bridge, and on the other side of the Hereford rly., is the venerable *Abbey Ch.*, in interest and beauty scarcely surpassed by *St. Mary's*. It was formerly a large cruciform ch., having a central as well as the present W. tower; but the E. portion was destroyed at the time of the dissolution of the monasteries, while part of the clerestory fell at a subsequent date. The basement of the tower is Norm.; the remainder being Dec. and adorned with a magnificent Dec. window, surmounted by a rich crocket and finial. Above it, and between the 2 bell-tower windows, is a niche containing the statue of a mailed knight, supposed to represent Edward III. On the N. side is a porch of 2 stories, with mullioned windows, nearly flat-arched. A great deal of judicious restoration has taken place in this ch., particularly at the E. end and in the S. aisle. The nave is separated from the side-aisles by 5 arches, 2 of which, adjoining the tower, are E. Eng., while the others are Norm., with very thick round pillars, and it is evident that a course of smaller arches was intended to have been carried above them. The W. window

is filled with armorial bearings of kings, nobles, and members of old Shropshire families. In the S. aisle are a mutilated mailed figure, on a basement of early pointed arches, supposed to be that of Roger de Montgomery, the founder of the abbey, who died as a monk of his own foundation in 1094; an elaborate tomb of a knight and his lady; and a crossed-legged knight in mail, supposed to be Walter de Dunstanville, circa 1196.

In the N. aisle are the figure of a judge of the time of Edward I; a monumental statue in armour, with a long robe thrown back (14th cent.), besides many others more or less interesting, which have been brought at different times from the ch. of *St. Giles*, *Old St. Chad's*, and *Old St. Alkmund's*.

The Monastic Remains, at one time extensive, have nearly disappeared in the course of modern improvements. The Chapter-house, which formerly stood to the S. of the ch., was celebrated as the house of assembly for the 1st English Parliament in 1283. In a garden to the S. is a stone pulpit, placed on a wall, overlooking what was once the refectory, and probably used for the purposes of lecturing or reading while the brethren were at meals. A similar one was discovered at Tintern Abbey. It contains 6 E. Eng. trefoil arches, partly filled in by panels, on which are sculptured figures of *St. Peter* and *St. Paul*, &c. The *Ch. of St. Giles*, the oldest in Shrewsbury, was built early in the reign of Henry I., for the use of a Leper Hospital. It stands on the Acton Burnell road, and preserves, amongst modern additions, some Norm. work, and a good Norm. font.

Shrewsbury School, near the Castle, long esteemed among the public schools of England, was founded in 1551 by Edward VI., since whose time many persons of varied eminence have received their educa-

tion here. The scale ranges from Sir Philip Sidney to Judge Jeffries, without calling in question others of later days. The original building was of wood, but was replaced by the present structure, which occupies 2 sides of a quadrangle. Its principal features are a pinnacled tower, flanked on one side by the school-room and on the other by the chapel and library. Shrewsbury School was, in modern times, associated with the name of the late Dr. Butler, Bishop of Lichfield, an eminent Greek scholar, to whose learning and talent it is so highly indebted for its position as an educational establishment.

A little above the school, and on the opposite side of the road, are the slight remains of *St. Nicholas Chapel*, now used as a coach-house, but formerly erected by Roger de Montgomery as a chapel for such of his retainers as lived outside the castle-court. Close by are some ancient houses known as the *Council House*, or *Lord's Place*, and now converted into private residences. Here Charles I., with his nephew Prince Rupert, took up their quarters when on a visit to Shrewsbury, as also did the unhappy James II. in 1687. The entrance-hall is still preserved, nearly in its original condition. It received its name from having been the hall of the Court of the Marches of Wales, which held its meetings alternately here, at Ludlow, and Hereford. Shrewsbury is rich in ancient houses, the principal of which are *Ireland's Mansion*, a half-timbered gabled building, at the corner of the High-st.; a fine timber house of the 15th cent., in *Butcher's Row* (near St. Alkmund's ch.), "a quaint but repulsive locality, in which sweeps and slaughtermen divide the habitation of the chantry priests of the ancient guild of the Holy Cross;" the *Drapers' Hall*, near St. Mary's Ch., an Elizabethan building, with a fine old wainscoted apartment; *Vaughan's Place* (in College Hill,

now the Museum), of which a portion of the interior, erected in the 14th cent., is in good preservation; *Rowley's Mansion*, 1618, near the Mardol, which still keeps its ancient doorway; and across the river, *Whitehall* (Rev. T. Lloyd), an Elizabethan mansion of the same date, standing—

"So trim and finely, that it graceth
All the soil that it is on;"

There are also slight remains of a Grey Friary near the town wall. Nearly opposite St. Mary's ch. is a handsome and commodious *Buttermarket*, close to which once stood the *High Cross*, where Dafydd ap Gruffydd, brother to Llewelyn, met his fate of hanging, burning, and quartering, after being dragged at a horse's tail through the streets. This was the prince whose revolt against King Edward met with the furious and almost rhythmical denunciation—

"Quem nutrivimus orphanum,
Quem recepimus exulem," &c.

The *Market Square* is the focus of all the most important buildings, and contains Assize Courts and County Hall, from a design by Smirke, Music and Assembly Rooms, and an ancient *Market House*, an interesting building with an open arcade and square mulioned windows. Over the W. front are the arms of Queen Elizabeth, and over the N. arch is a statue in armour of Richard Duke of York, which formerly graced the old tower on the Welsh Bridge, but was removed in 1791, when the new bridge was built. A prominent object in the Market Square is the statue of *Lord Clive*, placed there in this age of monuments (1860), a full-length bronze figure, by Marochetti, on a pedestal of polished granite. Clive, considered the founder of an empire that was extended and upheld afterwards by greater men, invested a large portion of his Indian gains in land and

politics in the county of Salop; he represented the town 3 times in parliament, and was elected mayor in 1762. His naïve declaration in the House of Commons, when defending himself against the accusation of laying the native princes under contribution, "I wonder, Mr. Speaker, that I didn't take more," will often occur to those who pass by the sombre effigy of this remarkable man, whose family now bear the title of Earls of Powis. *Lord Hill's* monument in the London road commemorates another and a better Shropshire hero—the hero of Douro, Talavera, Vittoria, Waterloo, and many other battles—who concluded his virtuous and honourable life by several years' service as Commander-in-Chief of the British army. The column, of Grecian-Doric style, and 133 ft. high, was erected at a cost of nearly 6000*l.* in 1816, and is surmounted by a statue of Lord Hill. It is worth while ascending to the balcony at the summit for the sake of the view. Other points worth notice in the town are the Infirmary; the *County Gaol*, a massive brick building close to the station; and the *Museum of Natural History*, interesting as being the receptacle of the Roman articles found at Wroxeter. The visitor should not omit the *Quarry*, a series of public walks of a beauty and extent that few towns can boast. It is bounded on the S. by the Severn (here crossed by several ferries), and lined by avenues of lime-trees.

Like Coventry and Preston, Shrewsbury has been famous for the glories of its *show* or pageant, held every year on the Monday after 1st Sunday in Trinity, when the associated tradesmen, in gay attires, parade through the town to the suburb of Kingsland, where arbours are erected, one for each guild. Here they spend the rest of the day in festivity. Formerly these proceedings were accompanied by dra-

matic representations. "This yeare, 1568, at Whytsuntyde, was a notable stage playe, played at Shrosbury, the which was prayسد greatly, and the chyffe actor thereof was one Master Aston, beinge the heade scoole master at the Free Scoole there."—(MS. account of the Reception of Sir H. Sidney at the Free School.) Amongst natives of Shrewsbury may be mentioned Robert of Shrewsbury, Bishop of Bangor, who by his own desire was buried in the Shrewsbury market-place, 1213: Thomas Churchyard, the poet; Admiral Benbow; Job Orton, an eminent Nonconformist; and Taylor, the translator of 'Demosthenes.'

A striking peculiarity of the *streets* of Shrewsbury is the retention of so many quaint and ancient names—such as Murivance, Pride Hill, Mardol, Shop Latch, Wyle Cop, &c.

"Your trunk, thus dismember'd and torn,

Bloudie Jack,

They hew, and they hack, and they chop;

And to finish the whole

They stuck up a pole

In the place that's still call'd the Wylde Coppe."—*Ingoldsby Legends*.

These names offer curious corruptions of appellations that were once appropriate. Wyle Cop = Hill Top, it being a steep ascent from the river; Dog-pole = Duck-pool, in the hollow near St. Mary's; Mardol or Mardefol = Dairy Fold or Grazing Ground; Pride Hill, from an ancient family resident there; Shop Latch = Shutte Place, the seat of an old Salop family; Murivance, an open space in front of the walls, &c.

The visitor should not omit to pay attention to the famous *cakes, ale, and brawn*, the former of which, in particular, have been in request since the days of Queen Elizabeth.

Railways.—To London, 171 m.; Birmingham, 42; Wolverhampton, 27; Wellington, 12; Oswestry, 20; Chester, 42; Welshpool, 20; Church Stretton, 12; Ludlow, 27; Hereford, 51; Crewe, 32; Wem, 11; Stafford, 29; Newtown, 34; Aberystwith,

81½; Minsterley, 9; Llanymynach, 18.

Distances.—Montgomery, 22 m.; Wroxeter, 5; Uffington, 2½; Hawkstone, 14.

[In addition to many pleasant excursions in the neighbourhood of Shrewsbury, which would be foreign to the purpose of a Handbook to N. Wales, the tourist should not omit to visit *Wroxeter*, the site of the ancient *Ur-iconium*. It can be reached either by rail to Upton Magna stat. on the Shropshire Union Rly., from whence it is 2 m. of rather intricate lanes, or by direct road thither (5 m.), crossing the Severn at 3 m. *Atcham*, where there is an exceedingly picturesque ch. close to the river-side. The lower portion of the tower is of good Norm. work. *Atcham* was the birthplace of Ordericus Vitalis, the historian and chaplain of William the Conqueror.

4 m. 1. *Attingham Hall* (Lord Berwick). A charming landscape is produced by the junction of the Tern with the Severn near this house. The former river is crossed by a handsome open balustraded bridge. 5 m. *Wroxeter*. Here is a fine old Norm. ch., with later alterations; in the interior are some unique altar-tombs of the 16th cent., the figures of which are remarkable for the freshness and vividness of the colouring. At the gate of the ch.-yard are 2 Roman pillars with highly ornamented capitals, discovered in the bed of the river, which flows close by. The remains of *Ur-iconium* are to be found by the side of the Watling-st. road in a field a few hundred yards to the N., which has been excavated over an area of 2 acres, at the expense of the Shropshire Antiquarian Society. It is to be regretted that the prosecution of the important work should be so often checked by want of funds. The ruins consist of a massive wall about 70 ft. in length, known as the Old Wall, to the S. of which is a series

of courts and hypocausts, supposed by Mr. Wright to have been the public baths. In all the latter the connecting pillars or columns of Roman bricks, as well as the flues, are in high preservation, and afford a clear illustration of the methods by which the Romans warmed their houses. In one of the hypocausts 3 skeletons were found, 2 of females and one of an old man, by whose side was a box of coins of the reigns of Tetricus, Valens, Constantius, &c., thus showing the money in actual circulation at the time of the destruction of the city. These individuals had probably crept into the hypocaust to save themselves from the massacre, and had there been suffocated. Many articles of great interest have been deposited in the Museum at Shrewsbury, such as coins, fibulae, hair-pins (upwards of 30 varieties), combs, statues, nails, pottery, Samian ware, glass, charcoal, grains of wheat, bones, and even a bottle of patent eye-water, with the stamp of the nostrum-vendor who had concocted it.

Ur-iconium (usually erroneously written in one word, but which is simply "City of Iconium") was founded about the reign of Trajan (as far as can be judged from a medal of the Emperor found in 1841 embedded in a well), and probably by military colonists from the Asiatic part of the Roman empire. We know that a division of Parthian horse was stationed there, guarding the communications of the Roman roads and the passes of the Severn. It was destroyed by the Saxons in the 6th cent., when Romanized Britons alone remained as its defenders, and probably in one of those irruptions so pathetically deplored by *Llywarch Hen*. Since that epoch the city has never risen again, but has remained for centuries in ruins, mostly covered by the soil, and only visited at times by the builders of the middle ages, who seem to have made use of them

extensively as a ready-made quarry, from whence they might extract materials for the erection of the abbeys and churches in the neighbourhood.

The tourist should not visit Wroxeter without Mr. Wright's Guide.]

Quitting Shrewsbury by the Gt. Western Rly.,

1 m. l. is *Berwick Hall* (Hon. H. W. Powys). Observe the fine iron gates here.

2 m. on each side of the line is a sheet of water, known respectively as *Almond* and *Hencott Pools*. These small meres are rather a peculiar feature in the portion of country between Shrewsbury and Ellesmere.

4½ m. *Leaton* Stat.

7½ m. *Baschurch* Stat. On *Berth Hill*, 2 m., are some ancient fortifications, surrounded by a circular vallum, the whole defended by a deep pool at the bottom of the eminence. The ch. contains some Norm. work in the tower and S. aisle. Baschurch is the place mentioned as the "Churches of Basa" by Llywarch Hên in the elegy on the fall of Cyndelan, and, strange to say, an eminent Shropshire antiquary found proof in this against the authenticity of the poem, for he says "Bass" is a Saxon name, forgetting Martial's epigram "Ad Bassam," and that there were no Christian churches in England then.

[2½ m. l. *Ruyton* of the 11 towns, thought by many antiquarians to be identical with the Roman station Rutunium.]

9 m. l. *Boreatton* Park (R. Hunt, Esq.)

13½ *Rednall* Stat., to rt. of which is *Woodhouse* (W. M. Owen, Esq.); and l. *Aston*, the beautiful seat of Mrs. Lloyd.

16 m. WHITTINGTON JUNCT. for Ellesmere and Whitchurch (Rte. 2). On rt. are the ruins of the castle, held after the Conquest by Earl Roger de Montgomery. It still possesses fragments of 8 towers (4 of which

are attached to the keep), moat, and vestiges of other defensive works. It is said to have been the birthplace of Fulke Fitzwarine, a legendary baron.

18 m. GOBOWEN JUNCT. for Oswestry. Welshpool. Newtown, and Aberystwith (Rte. 27).

After quitting Gobowen, the line speedily approaches the outskirts of the hills which have been for many miles looming in the distance, and the country now becomes broken and varied.

19 m. rt. *Belmont* (T. Lovett, Esq.); to the E. of which runs *Watt's Dyke*. This ancient boundary, or more probably a line of defence, commences, or at least is visible for the first time, about 3 m. S. of Oswestry, and runs northward into Flintshire, keeping tolerably parallel with *Offa's Dyke*, which is plainly discernible on the high grounds in the parish of *Selattyn*, 3 m. W. of Gobowen. Its course is marked near Craignant by a tower built for that purpose by Mr. West. It is generally considered to have been a line of demarcation, for as a defence it must have been useless:—

"There is a famous thing
Calde Offae's Dyke, that reacheth farre in
lengthe.
All kind of ware the Danes might thether
bring;
It was free ground, and calde the Briton's
strength.
Wat's Dyke, likewise, about the same was
set;
Between which two both Danes and Britons
met."—*Churchyard*.

Selattyn is the burial-place of John Hanmer, Bishop of St. Asaph, temp. James I., who left doles to the poor here.

20 m. l. *Quinta* (T. Barnes, Esq.). The line now crosses the river *Ceiriog*, the boundary between Shropshire and Denbighshire, which the traveller now enters for the first time. The banks of this river are historically celebrated as being the theatre of a bloody fight between

the English and Welsh in 1164. Dafydd, son of Owain Gwynedd, prince of N. Wales, encouraged by the successes of the South Welsh, made a raid upon Flintshire, carrying off many prisoners and cattle to the Vale of Clwyd, upon which Henry II. advanced a large army as far as Oswestry. The Welsh retreated to Corwen, and were driven back to the Berwyn Mts., though Henry, in his turn, was so harassed that he was obliged to decamp and march back to England. The scenery of the dingle is very picturesque, and is further enhanced by the engineering works by which the Ellesmere Canal and the railway are carried across. The *Aqueduct*, designed by Telford, consists of 10 circular arches, 65 ft. high, supported by pyramidal piers; while the *Viaduct*, constructed by Mr. Robertson, the engineer of the line, has 12 arches of 45 ft. span, and is 100 ft. in length.

Telford seems to have been the first who introduced spandrel walls into bridges in this country, in place of the former practice of cramming the spaces with earth and rubbish, which retained the water, and was liable to expand and burst the side walls. In his aqueducts also he dispensed with clay puddle, liable to the same objection, and employed plates of cast iron, as may be seen here. This aqueduct cost 20,898*l.*

21 m. *Chirk Stat.* On rt. is *Brynkinalt*, the seat of the late Lord Dunganmon, so honourably known in connection with Cambrian archæology and the restoration of ecclesiastical ruins. Valle Crucis Abbey, near Llangollen (Rte. 3), is one of the many instances of his spirit and energy. At Brynkinalt the late Duke of Wellington spent many of his earliest days, being related on the maternal side to the Trevor family, who belong to the once numerous sept or family of Trevors, descended, with many of other names, from Tudor Trevor. John Trevor, a

gentleman of St. Martin's parish, in which Brynkinalt is situated, translated the *Life of St. Martin of Tours* from Latin to Welsh, A.D. 1488; the MS. is at Mostyn. Sir John Trevor, Speaker of the House of Commons in the reign of William III., possessed, and probably created, most of this estate.

Chirk Castle (Col. R. Myddleton Biddulph, M.P. and Lord Lieutenant of the county of Denbigh) is situated in the midst of a very extensive and beautiful park, reaching to the foot of the Berwyn mountains. It is certainly among the most ancient inhabited houses in the kingdom, and unites the arrangements of a modern dwelling with the grandeur of a Norman mansion. In form, the castle, "whose walles were greate," is quadrangular, strengthened at the angles with round towers, and entered by a gateway in the N. front, which was formerly defended by a portecullis. The apartments, which have been restored and embellished by the late Mr. Pugin, are of considerable size, and occupy the N. and E. sides of the quadrangle. On the opposite side is a long picture gallery, containing many good portraits: the most interesting of which are Charles Duke of Monmouth, Duke of Ormond, William and Mary, Duchess of Shrewsbury, Sir Thomas Myddleton in armour, and others of the same family. Though the present building is much modernised, it occupies the site of the ancient fortress of Castell Crogen, and was commenced by Roger Mortimer in the reign of Edward I. It afterwards passed into the hands of the Arundels, Mowbrays, Beauchamps, Dudley (the favourite of Elizabeth), and subsequently of Lord St. John of Bletsoe, from whom it was purchased in 1595 by Sir Thos. Myddleton, Lord Mayor of London, and brother of the famous Sir Hugh, the projector of the New River scheme. During the Civil Wars it experienced

many vicissitudes, amongst which not the least singular was its being besieged by its own possessor, at that time a Parliamentarian, who endeavoured to dislodge a party of Royalists ensconced there. Sir Thomas ultimately changed sides, and in his turn was besieged and forced to surrender; the repairs of that portion of the castle destroyed by Cromwell amounting to 8000*l*. Adam's Tower, the oldest part of the Castle, built by Roger Mortimer, Lord of Wigmore, after murdering, it is said, his ward Gruffydd ap Madoc, in order to obtain the estate, still retains its deep dungeon. The view from the terrace will alone repay the visitor, who on a clear day is enabled to descry from thence 13 counties. The park contains a large lake, on both sides of which Offa's Dyke can be traced.

The village of *Chirk* (*Inns*: Chirk Castle; *Hand*, where tickets of admission to the Castle can be obtained) is prettily placed on the high ground on the l. bank of the Ceiriog. In the ch. are some monuments of the Myddleton family, chiefly of the time of Charles II., and in the churchyard some magnificent old yew-trees.

Distances.—Llangollen, 5 m.; Cefn, 2; Chirk Castle, 2½; Ellesmere, 10; St. Martin's, 5.

Near Cefn the rly. is carried across the valley of the Dee on a remarkably beautiful *viaduct* of 19 arches of 60 ft. span, at a height of 150 ft. above the river. For simplicity of design, and solidity, few viaducts in England can compare with this, the architect of which was Mr. Robertson, formerly M.P. for Shrewsbury. A series of arches is a fine object anywhere, from the meadows below or from the hills around; and here, even in rough weather, the contrast of nature and art, the mists and the rain, and the rly. train rushing by, may present a picture calling up recollections

of our great landscape-painter, Turner.

As the train slackens speed, a very charming view opens up of the vale of Llangollen, in which the river and the aqueduct of Pont-cysylltau (Rte. 3) are prominent features. To the tourist crossing this viaduct on a fine summer evening, when the purple glows of sunset are on the mountains, the vale of Llangollen is as lovely an entrance to N. Wales as can be desired.

24 m. *Cefn Stat.* Overhanging the rly. on the rt. is the *Waterloo Tower*, situated within the precincts of Wynnstay, and erected by the late Sir W. W. Wynn to commemorate that battle. From hence a lovely walk along the valley of the Dee leads to *Nant-y-Belan*, "the Marten's dingle." "The steep banks are richly clad with light foliage, while the river runs along the bottom, now foaming over broken and projecting rocks, and presently flowing smooth and noiseless, and reflecting with a softened lustre the rich tints of the pendent trees and grassy knolls."—*Roseoe*. A mausoleum was erected here by Sir Watkin to the memory of the Welsh officers belonging to the regiment known as the Ancient Britons, who fell in the Irish rebellion of 1798. Both towers command varied and exquisite views, which however are by no means improved by the clouds of black smoke so bountifully sent forth from the collieries and iron-works on the l. of the rly. In the distance appear the mountains above Llangollen, including Dinas Brân, part of the aqueduct of Pont-y-Cysylltau, and in front Chirk Castle, distant about a mile in a direct line, but 6 m. round by the road. A road and foot-path lead through the woods along the margin of the Dee to New-bridge, 2½ m. distant. A considerable population is employed in this district at the *New British Iron-*

works, for whose accommodation a ch. has been erected at Rhos-y-medre.

The traveller now, and for a considerable distance N., skirts the E. border of the *N. Welsh Coal-field*, which, though very far inferior in size and value to its sister field in the S., is nevertheless practically inexhaustible as regards the supply and quality of the coal (*Introduct.*, Denbighshire alone producing annually from 600,000 to 700,000 tons.

25 m. 1. *Plasmadoc* (C. H. Whalley, Esq.), well known for his connection with the original enterprise of several Welsh railroads.

26 m. RUABON JUNCT. for Llangollen, Corwen, and Bala (Rte. 3) (*Inn*, Wynnstay Arms). Though the village is but small, it derives importance from the proximity of many ironworks and collieries, as well as from the more agreeable neighbourhood of the princely demesne of Wynnstay (Sir Watkin W. Wynn, Bart., descended from, and the representative of, Sir William Williams, in the time of Charles II. Speaker of the House of Commons, and afterwards well known as Solicitor-General in the trial of the 7 bishops). The *Ch.*, close to the park-gates, contains some interesting monuments, principally of the Wynn family. The most noticeable are—that of Henry Wynn, 10th son of Sir John Wynn of Gwydir, in curious short skirts and square-toed shoes; a marble effigy in the S. aisle by Ruysbracck of Sir W. Wynn (killed by a fall from his horse in 1749), with a Latin inscription elegantly written, though too long and fulsome; also a statue by Nollekens to Lady Wynn, daughter of the Duke of Buckingham; and an altar-tomb near the communion-table on which are 2 recumbent figures of an armed knight and lady of the Eyton family, 1526, in the dress of the time of Henry VII., whose cause they supported at Bosworth—

"A tomb it is, right rich and statelie made,
Where two do lye, in stone an auncient
trade;
The man and wife, with sumptuous solemn
guise,
In this rich sort before the aulter lies."
Churchyard.

The place now known as *Wynnstay* was in early times the residence of Madoc ap Gruffydd Maelor, Lord of Bromfield and Yale, and founder of Valle Crucis Abbey. Subsequently it was called Wattstay, from the fact of Watt's Dyke running through the park and passing close to the house. The property came into the hands of the Wynns about 1670, by the marriage of the heiress of Eyton Evans with Sir John Wynn of Gwydir, and by subsequent marriages and female descents was established early in the last cent. in the present family of the Williams Wynns, who are distinguished by having several times declined the peerage, and by the magnificence and patriotism of some of their generations. The park, nearly 8 m. in circumference, has the reputation of being the largest in Wales, and presents many objects of interest, both from its natural beauties and the improvements introduced by modern landscape-gardening on a large scale. Its principal features are a noble avenue a mile long, leading from the Ruabon Lodge; the Bath; and the Column (in the same part of the grounds) erected to the father of the present baronet by his mother, bearing on the base "*Filio optimo . mater . cheu . superstes*:" the Waterloo Tower; and Mausoleum, at Nant-y-Belan, before mentioned. The old house (part of which dated back to the 15th cent.), though possessing no important architectural beauties, was massive and dignified, and contained some good pictures and curiosities, besides a valuable library in which were many interesting Welsh records and MSS. These were nearly all destroyed by fire on the night of 6th March, 1858.

This calamity, from its extent and the amount of valuable property consumed, caused great sympathy for the owners of Wynnstay, who have long been endeared to every class for the kindness and hospitality exercised for so many years. Wynnstay is now being rebuilt in the Renaissance style.

On an eminence about $\frac{3}{4}$ m. l. of Ruabon is the camp and enclosure of *Gardden* (Caer dden?), defended in many places by concentric dykes, and showing traces internally of ancient dwellings. Near it is *Pen-y-gardden* (Lady Marshall).

Distances.—Llangollen, 6 m.; Wrexham, 5; Overton, 5; Bangor Iscoed, 7.

[An excursion can be made through a pretty country to *Overton*, passing 3 m. *Rose Hill* (Mrs. Boates) and *Erbistock Hall*. A little beyond is the picturesque village of *Erbistock*, with its chyard washed by the river Dee, which at 4 m. is crossed by a stone bridge, as it emerges from a romantic dingle.

5 m. *Overton* (one of the borough towns contributing with 6 others to Flint in sending a member to Parliament) possesses in itself little of interest, but is well worth a visit, if only to feast one's eyes on the Dee, which at a considerable depth below winds round the vale; its waters often spotted with salmon-fishers in their coracles, the aboriginal British boats, made of wicker-work. The Britons appear to have taught their Roman masters the art of making wicker baskets, and to have introduced the name of *Bascauda* (*Basgawd*) into the classic Latin tongue. Martial tells us, "*Barbara de pietis venit bascauda Britannis*;" and certainly no more curious application of the art than to the manufacture of these boats (the same now as in the days of Cæsar) can be found. They are exceedingly dangerous to those who are unaccustomed to them, and require a Welshman for their

management as well as their manufacture.

Parks and residences add to the attractiveness of the scene, especially *Gvernhaelod*, the seat of the Fletchers, and *Bryn-y-pys* (E. Peel, Esq.). In the neighbourhood also are *Pen-y-lan* (J. Hardeastle, Esq.), *Cil Hendre* (W. B. Horsfall, Esq.), and *Knolton Hall* (C. R. Cotton, Esq.).

2 m. N. of Overton on the Wrexham road is the once important place of *Bangor Iscoed*, by some supposed to be the Roman Bovium. Near this, in the green and fertile basin of meadows divided by the Dee, lies the site of the largest and most ancient monastery in Great Britain, traditionally stated to have been founded about the year 180 by Lucius, son of Coel, the first Christian king of Britain. Nennius, the historian, was one of the abbots in the 7th cent. Pelagius, the heretic, stigmatized in one of our 39 Articles, is also recorded to have been a monk in this place, from whence he proceeded to Rome before his controversy with St. Augustine. The number of monks was said to have been 2400 previous to the destruction of the monastery by Ethelfrid king of Northumberland, which took place after the battle of Chester, A.D. 607. Although there are no remains, and the ch. is of churchwarden character, there is considerable beauty in its situation close to the river, which is here crossed by a narrow picturesque bridge of 5 arches, with recesses from the roadway over the piers for the protection of foot passengers.

Till the establishment of the rly. system put an end to former means of transit, a considerable country traffic existed at Bangor, from whence cheese and corn were sent in barges down the Dee to Chester. From Bangor or Overton the Flintshire hundred of Maelor or Maelor Saesneg may be visited; an industrious agricultural district, containing many dairy farms, where

cheese of the finest quality is produced.

Emral, an ancient seat of the Puleston family, now unoccupied; Broughton, the residence of R. Howard, Esq.; Penley, of Rev. E. H. Dymocke; and Iscoyd, of P. W. God-sall, Esq., are the principal places in this neighbourhood. From Bangor to Wrexham it is 6 m. Not far from Wrexham is

Erddig, the residence of Simon Yorke, Esq., a member of the Hardwicke family. This was another ancient mansion of a descendant of Tudor Trevor, though it has been almost entirely modernized. It is remarkable for the beauty of its situation on a wooded mound, at the base of which runs a murmuring brook. Philip Yorke, an ancestor of the present owner, was the author of a learned genealogical work, 'The Royal Tribes of Wales,' the heraldic devices of which are curiously emblazoned on the walls of one of the apartments.]

31 m. *Wrexham* (*Hotel*: Wymstay Arms), the approach to which is foretold for some distance by the noble tower of the ch., which, from its great height and elevated position, is visible for miles. The town is noticed in the Saxon chronicles under the name of Wright-elsham, and was granted to Earl Warren in the reign of Edward I. This is almost all that is historically known, except that Leland mentions it as containing "sum merchauntes and good bokeler makers." The *Church*, one of the 7 wonders of Wales, and a very fine example of Perp. style, was built about 1470, though the tower was not completed until 1500. It is 135 ft. in height, and is surmounted by a balustrade from which spring 4 lantern-shaped turrets of rich open work crowning the buttresses after the Somersetshire fashion. In the niches of the buttresses are placed statues of 30 saints—

"Trin pictures fayre in stone on outside are,
Made all like waxe, as stone were nothing
deere."

The church was restored 1867, and the galleries removed, so that the effect of the lofty nave and apsidal chancel is very beautiful. The organ has been judiciously erected on either side of the W. window, so as to allow it to be visible throughout the whole length of the church. In the chancel are a fine metal screen and brass lectern, and a handsome modern stone pulpit. Remains of a painting (The Doom) over chancel arch have been laid open. The monument for which Wrexham ch. is particularly famous, by *Roubilliac*, to the memory of Miss Myddleton, of Chirk Castle, is now removed to the N. aisle. It represents a female figure starting from the grave at the sound of the last trump. The attitude is finely rendered, though the accessories are puerile for such a subject.

There are two medallion monuments, by the same sculptor, to the Rev. Thos. Myddleton and his wife. Hugh Bellot, Bishop of Bangor and Chester, 1596, lies in his robes on the S. of the chancel. Observe the grotesque heads and armorial bearings on the corbels in the nave. The churchyard contains an unusual number of quaint epitaphs, though some have been fathered on Wrexham which really do not belong to it. A tombstone to Elihu Yale records that he was—

"Born in America, in Europe bred,
In Africa travell'd, in Asia wed,
Where long he lived and thrived; at London
dead," &c.

In the tower is an exceedingly sweet peal of bells. Wrexham has the good fortune to possess, with its 2 churches and 11 chapels, religious accommodation for every one of the inhabitants, who at present number between 6000 and 7000. It is a thriving and increasing town, partly owing to its situation on the borders,

and partly to the large mining population which find subsistence from the various collieries scattered about on the slopes of the hills to the W.

Distances.—Ruabon, 5 m.; Bangor Iscoed, 6; Holt, $5\frac{1}{2}$; Minera, 5; Mold, 11; Overton, 8; Ruthin, 16; Corwen, 20.

[The district of *Minera*, about 5 m. l., is remarkably rich in lead, iron, and copper, besides being placed at the outcrop of the coalmeasures and in the immediate neighbourhood of lime and slate quarries. (*Introd.*) 1 m. rt. of road to Minera and Ruthin is *Brymbo Hall*, an old mansion designed by Inigo Jones and formerly inhabited by an eccentric ironmaster of the name of Wilkinson, who was the first to commence the trade in this part of the country. On l. is *Plas Power*, the seat of the Fitzhugh family. Hence the road continues to Llandegla and Ruthin (Rte. 11).]

[An excursion may be made from Wrexham to the little town of *Holt*, 6 m. E., at one period of its history of some importance, but now much decayed. It was formerly known as "Lyons" (*Castra Leonis*), from the circumstance that it had been garrisoned by a detachment of the Roman Legion at Chester. The castle, of which there are but few traces, was built in Edward I.'s reign, by Earl Warren (a contemporary of Mortimer the founder of Chirk), and in the reign of Henry VII. was forfeited to the Crown by the attainder of Sir William Stanley, K.G., who, not many years before, had placed the crown on his head at Bosworth Field. In 1643 it was taken by Sir Thos. Myddleton and Sir W. Brereton. The situation of Holt, with its narrow bridge over the Dee and its red-towered ch., is picturesque. On rt. of the road from Wrexham are *Cefn Hall* (A. Peel, Esq.) and *Llwynon* (Mrs. Parry-Jones).]

32 m. l. is *Stansty Hall* (— Irvine, Esq.), and on rt. *Acton Hall* (Sir

Robert Cunliffe, Bart.), historically noted as being the birthplace of the infamous Judge Jefferies, to whose family the property had belonged for a considerable time. Cowbridge, in Glamorganshire, disputes the questionable honour with Acton Hall; but there is not the least room for doubting that he came from Acton. The lordship of Wem, in Shropshire, belonged to him at one time, he having bought it in 1684. He was created a peer as Baron Jefferies of Wem immediately afterwards.

34 m. *Gresford*, sweetly situated in the vale of the Alyn, which meanders gracefully through thick woods and rich pastures. The ch. (Perp.), which is conspicuously placed on the rising ground to the rt., is both ancient and interesting; and, like Wrexham, is also a wonder of Wales, from the purity and tone of its peal of bells. The interior contains some ancient monuments, particularly a sculptured stone in memory of Gronow ap Iorwerth ap Dafydd, 1320, one of the 6 sons of Ithel, who gave the land for the foundation of the ch.; a mailed warrior of the date 1331, besides several others belonging to the family of Trevor, of Trevalyn, who were descended from the same ancestors as that of Brynkinalt (p. 10). Notice the elaborate carving of the screen and stalls, as well as the images of Knights Templars, and that of Henry VII. on the tower. There is also a moulding containing a grotesque chase of cats, rats, mice, dogs, and monkeys. The stained windows are said to have been brought from Basingwerk Abbey, a fact which becomes rather doubtful when one remembers the numerous cases in which this statement occurs. In the valley below the ch. is *Gresford Lodge* (Mrs. Egerton); and about $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. l., on the steep bank of the Alyn, is *Gwersyllt Hall* (M. Humble, Esq.) (p. 73).

The rly. follows the course of the Alyn to Rossett Stat., to the rt. of

which are *Treculyn House* (Mrs. Townsend); *Treculyn Old Hall*, the Elizabethan seat of Boscawen Griffiths, Esq.; and *Rossett* (J. Boydell, Esq.). From hence the character of the scenery changes, the outskirts of the hills being speedily left behind, as the traveller is rapidly borne along the flat alluvial lands of the Dee.

At the village of Dolleston the line enters Flintshire. The ch. contains the monument of Lord Chancellor Ellesmere.

41 m., at *Saltney*, a junction is effected with the Holyhead line. A populous settlement has grown up here within the last 10 years, consisting of workmen and their families employed in the large rly.-works attached to this line, and also in loading and unloading of vessels, which come up the river to this point, Saltney being in fact the port of Chester. It lies in the bed of the ancient estuary of the Dee, on land recovered from the water by the River Dee Company, under power granted to them by Parliament, 1732. The line dividing the counties of Chester and Flint at this place is in fact the midline, or "medium flum aquæ" of the ancient channel of the Dee.

Crossing the rly.-bridge over the Dee, and gliding under the old walls, the traveller arrives at the ancient and time-honoured city of Chester (Rte. 4).

is therefore a direct route from Manchester to Aberystwith.

1 m. Fern Hill (T. Lovett, Esq.).

3 m. rt. *Halston*, the ancestral seat of the Mytton family, one of whom, John Mytton, Esq., as sheriff of the county, had the task of receiving into custody Henry Stafford, Duke of Buckingham, surrendered by the treachery of Humphrey Banastre, his steward. There is a heronry at Halston. It now belongs to E. Wright, Esq.

5 m. *Frankton* Stat., where a new ch. has been built.

6 m. l. *Hardwick Hall*, once the seat of the Kynastons, a good house, built in the time and taste of Queen Anne. In the grounds are many beautiful specimens of pines and firs, and among them perhaps the best araucaria in England.

7 m. *Ellesmere* Stat. (*Hotel*, Bridge-water Arms), a pretty town of some 2000 Inhab., placed on the bank of a lake of 150 acres, from whence its Saxon name Aelsmere was derived. It was originally held by Earl Roger de Montgomery, and afterwards by the Crown, who made frequent grants of it, amongst others one to Prince David, formerly mentioned as executed at Shrewsbury. It afterwards passed into the hands of Lord Strange, and finally the Egerton family. The late Lord Francis Leveson Gower, as one of the representatives of the last Egerton, Duke of Bridgewater (the Canal Duke), took the name of Egerton and the title of Ellesmere. Its prosperity depends almost entirely on its markets for corn and agricultural produce, which are resorted to by dealers from Liverpool and Chester to supply the manufacturing districts. Making is the chief business. The site of the *castle* is occupied, as at Denbigh, by a bowling-green, which embraces a grand view, overlooking Chester and the Broxton Hills, Wrexham and the Caergwrle heights, Castle Dinas

ROUTE 2.

WHITTINGTON JUNCTION TO WHITECHURCH JUNCTION, BY ELLESMERE—RAIL.

This line runs from Whitechurch to Oswestry, and forms a connecting link between the Shrewsbury and Crewe and the Cambrian Rlys. It

Bran and the Berwyns, the hill of Llanymynach, the Breiddens, Pimhill, Clee-hill, and the Wrekin. It is said that this view extends into 9 counties. The *ch.* has a Dec. nave, rebuilt in 1849, and a good E. window. At the S. end of the mere is *Oteley Park*, the modern Elizabethan mansion of C. Mainwaring, Esq. The Ellesmere and Chester Canal was considered previously to the construction of railways the grand engineering feat of the day.

Distances.—Shrewsbury, by road, 16 m.; Oswestry, 8; Overton, 4.

10 m. *Welchampton* Stat.

The line enters Flintshire near

11½ m. *Bettisfield* Stat. Immediately adjacent is *Bettisfield Park*, an ancient house, the seat of Sir John Hammer, Bart., also containing a considerable library and many family portraits and pictures. Close by this house is one of the two divisions of the watershed that occur in Flintshire, the water flowing southward to the Severn, but N.E. and westward to the Dec.

A little to the N. of Bettisfield is *Gredington*, the seat of Lord Kenyon, containing a library collected by the distinguished Chief Justice, founder of that family, and portraits of himself and of his contemporary Lord Thurlow; and to the N. of this again is the village of *Hammer*, mentioned by Camden in his *Britannia*. The *ch.* is of Tudor architecture, commenced to be rebuilt in the reign of Henry VII., after the destruction of the old one in the York and Lancaster wars. It contains some painted windows of modern glass by Clayton and Bell, magnificent carved oak ceilings, and various monuments of the Hammer and Kenyon families. It is most probable that Owain Glyndwr was married in this place, though in the *ch.* which was burned down, since his wife was Margaret, daughter of Sir David Hammer, Knt., one of the judges K.B. in the reign of Richard

II., resident here in his day, and ancestor of the present owners. In front of the *ch.* towards the S. extends one of the meres which give so much beauty to this part of the country.

The rly. now passes through *Fenn's Moss*, a large tract of peaty moorland, grown up on the site of one of the original woods cut down by King Edward I. to clear the country at the settlement of Wales. A considerable establishment for the manufacture of peat-charcoal exists upon it. Some was sent hence to the English camp in the Crimea. At the further side of the moor is

15 m. *Fenn's Bank* Stat.

17 m. the line crosses the English border to

18 m. *Whitchurch* Junct. (*Hand-book of Shropshire*).

ROUTE 3.

RUABON JUNCTION TO DOLGELLEY, BY LLANGOLLEN, CORWEN, AND SALA.

The road follows the rt. bank of the Dec, crossing at ½ m. *Offa's Dyke*, in its course between the 2 demesnes of Chirk and Wynnstay. On the rt., looking back towards the rly., the viaduct over the Dec is a very prominent and graceful object. The line to Llangollen ascends an incline, passing the grounds of Plasmadoc (C. H. Whalley, Esq.) to Acrefair Stat., where there are some iron-works of the British Company, and a considerable mining population. This is the nearest point (about 1 m.) to the *Pont-cysylltu* aqueduct, which carries the Llangollen branch of the Ellesmere canal at a height of 126 ft. across the ravine of the Dec—a work of modern art not surpassed by any similar structure of antiquity, since, though inferior in length to many Roman aqueducts, it probably ex-

ceeds any one in height, and certainly in the quantity of water which it transports. It was built by Telford to convey the Ellesmere canal across the valley of the Dee, here 2600 ft. wide. This he effected by an earthen embankment 1500 ft. long, excavated from the S. side of the valley and connected with the opposite side by 18 light and lofty piers of sandstone and 2 abutments. These support a water-trough of cast iron, 1007 ft. long, through which the canal passes. The width of the waterway is 11 ft. 10 in., of which the towing-path, supported on iron pillars, covers 4 ft. 8 in., allowing the water to fluctuate beneath it, and greatly facilitating the progress of the boats: it is 5 ft. 3 in. deep. The height of the piers above low water in the river is 121 ft.; up to 70 ft. from their base they are of solid masonry; above this they are built hollow with a cross inner wall, securing lightness and saving masonry. It was completed in 1805, 10 years after its commencement, and cost 47,918*l.* An inscription on the S. side of the middle pier, near its base, records the particulars of its construction.

The series of light and elegant piers, supporting cast-iron arches, stretching across this valley and meeting the crow midway in its flight, adds greatly to the effect of the scenery around. It has a very picturesque appearance from the high road, which is considerably above the top of the canal. In order to form a just idea of the work, the traveller should cross the drawbridge and walk on the aqueduct so as to look down from it over the tops of the trees upon the rushing and brawling Dee; then returning, descend the bank and walk as far as the river, so as to be able to appreciate the magnitude of the piers and the height of the canal. This bridge, which until eclipsed by the viaduct was considered as one of the greatest engineering works of the day, was built by Telford in 1805, is

1007 ft. long, and is supported by 19 arches. The drive from hence to Llangollen is a series of lovely views, and has long been celebrated by tourists as being the most charming excursion in Wales. There is no doubt but that the *Vale of Llangollen* possesses all the accessories of a perfect landscape, though a good deal depends upon the particular lights under which it is seen. The traveller should by all means ascend the vale, if possible, in his route to the hill districts, as after the rugged heights of Snowdonia, the scenery here is necessarily tame and insignificant. The opinions of various writers differ most amusingly about the beauties of Llangollen, from the most extravagant encomiums, to Pennant's assertion that the Eglwyseg rocks are actually a disfigurement to the landscape.

On the opposite side of the river are the *Waterloo Tower* and the woods of Wynnstay (Rte. 1), sadly too near the smoky chimneys of Acrefair.

The rly. now passes to *Trevor* Stat., $2\frac{1}{2}$ m., under a promontory of limestone rock, fringed with beautiful woods, high up amongst which is *Trevor Hall*, formerly the seat of the Lloyds, a Montgomeryshire family, who obtained it by marriage with the heiress of the Trevors. It now is in the possession of T. P. Evans, Esq. There is a small parochial chapel near the house. The *Eglwyseg* rocks and the lofty eminence on which *Castell Dinas Bran* is perched, are now the 2 principal features in the foreground, although they are better seen from the road on the S. bank of the Dee. The former is a very peculiar wall of limestone, which stretches from this point to Llangollen, and then, turning to the N.W., merges in the range of *Cyrn-y-brain*, constituting in fact the geological boundary of the N. Wales coal-field. They are remarkable for the peculiarly formed and regular appearance of the strata, which makes them at

once conspicuous beyond every hill in the district. The best time for seeing these rocks is at sunset, which lights them up in a very beautiful manner.

Gm. *Llangollen* Stat. (*Hotels*: Hand, very comfortable King's Head, good) is a pleasant little Welsh town with a Pop. of some 1500 Inhab., embosomed in hills which close it in on every side, and on the rt. bank of the Dee, which brawls over its bed of rock, making "perpetual loud music." Though small, it is a busy, well-to-do place, famous in particular for its brewery and its harper. The Welsh ale and Welsh airs may be simultaneously enjoyed at the Hand, in the hall of which hostelry a harper frequently performs 'Jenny Jones' or 'Ar hyd-y-nos.' The town itself is soon exhausted, but the beautiful excursions in the neighbouring hills will not make a stay tedious. The ch. is dedicated to a saint with the modest name of Collen ap Gwynog ap Clyddwg ap Cowrda ap Caradoc Freichfras ap Llyr Merini ap Einion Yrth ap Cunedda Wledig, and contains a good carved oak roof of Late Perp., to which the usual tradition is appended, that it was brought from the neighbouring abbey of Valle Crucis. It is a curious fact that scarcely a single good painted window, carved roof, screen, or roodloft, is ever found in a Welsh ch. that is not said to have been transplanted from the nearest religious house. The Dee is crossed by a singular bridge of 4 pointed arches—one of the 3 wonders of Wales—erected in 1345 by John Trevor, afterwards Bishop of St. Asaph. At times the river is remarkable for a very sudden rise in the volume of water, even in dry weather, when there has been no rain, a phenomenon said to depend on a particular wind which blows over the lake of Bala and produces an extraordinary efflux of water into the Dee. In a dell at the back of the ch. which runs up into the mountains

are 2 residences, both remarkable in their way. The nearest is *Plas Newydd*, $\frac{1}{4}$ m., a small cottage ornée, which gained a great reputation for having been the well-ordered retreat of 2 maiden ladies, Lady Eleanor Butler and Miss Ponsonby, a member of the Bessborough family. In 1779 they came hither together from Ireland in the heyday of their youth and charms, influenced only by a romantic attachment to each other, which never was sundered. Here they set up their tent and lived together, neither "the world forgetting" nor "by the world forgot," amidst their books, flowers, and such chosen friends as they admitted to their intimacy, amongst whom were numbered Madame de Genlis and Mademoiselle d'Orléans. Their dwelling was crammed with curiosities, portraits, memorials, &c., the gifts of friends. In their dress they were as singular as in their mode of life, wearing their hair powdered, short, and uncurled, a man's hat and neck-cloth, and blue riding-habits. Neither lady would sit for her portrait, but each wished for that of the other, and aided Lady Leighton in obtaining the sketches which, upon the success of this double plot, were lithographed. Their deaths happened respectively in 1829 and 1831 at very advanced ages. They were buried in *Llangollen* chyard, where a monument commemorates their virtues, as also those of an old and valued servant who lies under the same stone. The graves of the two postboys are also shown who used to drive these ladies, and who died worth 1500*l.* and 1000*l.* respectively. Their simple, earnest life, together with the many benevolent actions that they did in this neighbourhood, has made the "ladies of *Llangollen*" a chapter of real romance which has not even yet died out. Two other maiden ladies, Miss Lolly and Miss Andrew, tried the same experiment soon afterwards. The former died in 1854.

Pengwern is higher up the vale. It was an ancient seat of the 14th cent. belonging to the Mostyn family, to whom it descended from an ancestor, Tudor Trevor, who built the original mansion. It does not now contain any remains, save a chamber with a narrow-vaulted roof. It is the residence of J. R. Freme, Esq.

The conical hill on which *Castell Dinas Bran* is placed rises sharply up from the bank of the river to the height of 910 ft., though from its very abruptness and isolation it looks higher than it really is. On the summit are the scanty ruins of the castle, the early history of which is involved in great obscurity. Indeed but little is known of it at any time, except that it was a stronghold of the lords of Yale; that it gave refuge to Gruffydd ap Madoc when he fled from his countrymen's righteous anger in consequence of his having deserted to the side of Henry III.; and lastly, that it sustained an attack under Owain Glyndwr. In softer strains it was celebrated by a poet named Iolo Goch, for being the residence of Myvanwy, a great beauty, who held his heart in bondage. From present appearances the castle would seem to have been about 300 ft. long by 150 ft. broad; and although the ruins as they at present stand are rude and scanty, there are certain traces of its having once been a strongly built, well-finished fortress; and in this instance as well as in many other Welsh castles, the progress of time is not the only agent of destruction, but it is considerably helped by the practice that so often prevailed of persons living in the vicinity helping themselves to the ready-made masonry, in order that they might more readily build their own cottages and farm-houses. The botanist will find *Pyrus intermedia* here. The view from the summit of the hill will well repay the exertion of ascent, especially if it be early morning, when the mist is gradually

lifting up from the hills. A very charming walk may be taken over the hills at the back of the town, to the little village of Glyn Ceiriog.

Distances.—Ruabon, 6 m.; Ruthin, 15; Corwen, 10; Valle Crucis, 2; Llandyssilio, 3; Oermant slate-quarries, 3.

[*Valle Crucis Abbey*, the most perfect and beautiful of North Welsh abbeys, lies in a lovely dingle to the N.W. of Llangollen, from $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 m. distant. The visitor must cross the bridge and take the road to the l., following the canal as far as the slate-wharf and tramroad. The road on rt. goes to Ruabon.

$\frac{1}{2}$ m. rt. is a farm-house, containing a square tower among its buildings, and *Diabren Hall* (R. Jones, Esq.). $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. a road l. continues to Llantysilio. Follow the one which turns abruptly to the rt. for a short distance, and then take a path across the fields leading to the farm-house in whose precincts stand the venerable ruins of the abbey. In the year 1200 a religious house of the Cistercian order was founded here by Madoc ap Gruffydd Maelor, lord of Bromfield and Yale, who was then endeavouring to assist Llewelyn in his struggle for Welsh independence with King John. The ch. went by many names, as *Monachilog-v-Glyn*, *Monachilog Tlor Egwesl*, and *Monachilog Pen-y-groes*. The general style of architecture is E. E., and in some parts Late Norman, corresponding to the commencement of the 13th cent. The ch. consists of nave with aisles, choir, and 2 transepts, each of which had an aisle divided into 2 chapels. From the appearance of the piers, and from the description given by the poet Churchyard, there must have been a central tower. The western end, which is a very perfect E. E. example of the middle of the 13th cent., has a central doorway with deeply-recessed mouldings and dog-tooth ornament. Above it are 3 lofty windows, the middle being the largest,

which are all remarkable for their bold splays. In the upper portion of the gable, above these windows, is a delicate wheel-window of 8 trifoliated compartments, and at the extreme point is another small quatrefoliated light. On the external face, just below the wheel-window, is the inscription,

“QUIESCAT AMĒ
+ ADAM ABBAS FECIT HOC OPUS Ī
PACE.”

The choir is lighted by 3 lofty lancet windows, and 2 smaller ones above. During the excavations there was found on the N. side of the choir “a ruined arcade of 5 arches, having every appearance of sedilia; but the arches were found to be too narrow to have admitted the officiating priest within them.” In the S. chapel of the aisle of the S. transept is a double trefoil-headed piscina and an ogee-headed canopy, which must have decorated some place of burial. The base of the high altar was discovered in the choir, as also 3 or 4 tombstones, which are now placed side by side. A painting, which is believed to have adorned the high altar, is now in the possession of W. Ormsby Gore, Esq., of Porkington, near Oswestry. On one tombstone is inscribed “EDWART. FIL. YOR[WERTH],” and on another “MYVANWY,” probably the fair maiden of Castell Dinas Bran. The visitor to the abbey can have but little conception of the state of the interior previous to the excavations carried on by Lord Dunganon and Mr. Wynn. For a depth of 14 or 15 ft. the rubbish had accumulated, and a thick grove of ash-trees flourished on the surface. In the buildings adjoining the S. of the nave are the abbatial offices, which, however, being now tenanted by a farmer, are not generally shown to the visitor. They were entered by a round-headed doorway from the S. aisle of the nave. “About a cent. ago they were converted into a farm-house, and the

cheese of the tenant is now elaborated beneath the groined roof of the ancient refectory, and that favoured individual reposes in a room where the mantelpiece had been skilfully constructed with a monumental slab bearing the inscription ‘*INC JACET.*’”

“That court contains my cattle; swine are there;
Here fowls and fuel; underneath is beer.
Snug in that chamber, sir, my corn is kept,
My clover yonder, where a king has slept.
My dame her curds does in the chapel squeeze;
In chancel salts her chines; the font holds cheese.”

The ruins now belong to 5 ladies, daughters of the late Rice Thomas, Esq., of Coedhelen, near Caernarvon, to whom it came by marriage with the heiress of Mr. Lloyd, of Trevor. The interior is well preserved, and the visitor's curiosity amply attended to by Miss Lloyd, as intelligent an antiquarian guide as any one could wish.

About $\frac{1}{4}$ m. above the abbey is the *Pillar of Eliseg*, erected in the 7th cent. or thereabouts by Concern or Cyngen, in memory of his great-grandfather Eliseg, father of Brochmael, prince of Powis, who we are told was engaged in the battle of Bangor Iscoed, A.D. 603. The inscription is long, and consists of 4 paragraphs, each of them commencing with a cross, which, together with the probable cruciform shape of the pillar, might have given name to the vale. It has, however, been shorn of its ancient proportions. It was once 24 ft. high, but was thrown down and mutilated during the rebellion, and afterwards replaced in 1779 as it at present stands by Mr. Lloyd of Trevor Hall.

From the abbey a road continues up the vale to meet the Ruthin and Wrexham road, at the Crown Inn, near Llandegla (Rte. 11), $8\frac{1}{2}$ m. from Llangollen. The scenery is very beautiful, especially in the neighbourhood of the slate-quarries and the pass

of Bwlch Rhiw-felin, which crosses the limestone range of Cyn-y-brain. The pedestrian may improve very much on this excursion by scaling the hills above the abbey, and following a path along the escarpment to Craig Aderyn and Craig Forwyn, locally called by Llangollen excursionists "The World's End." From hence a track leads across the hills for about 4 m. E. to Minera. The master mountain of the district is Moel y Gamelin, $3\frac{1}{2}$ m. as the crow flies to the N.W. of Llangollen. It may be included in the same day's excursion as Valle Crucis; but the climb should only be attempted by a good mountaineer. Follow the Ruthin road for a mile beyond Valle Crucis, where, at a point where a cottage divides the road into two, the path to the l. should be taken. This winds along the S. side of a wild glen, at the head of which is a slate-quarry; at the quarry leave the road and climb the mountain; the view from the summit is very fine, looking on the N. and N.W. over the vale of Llandegla and Bryn Eglwys, on the S. through the vale of Llantysilio and the Dee, and eastward up to the crest of the Creigian Eglwyseg. Descending now to the S., at a few hundred yards from the summit, at the head of the Glen of Blaen Goran, is the most exquisite view down the Vale of Llantysilio, confirming the practised mountaineer in the often suspected fact that the finest prospects are to be found, not on the summits, but on the slopes of great mountains. Following the stream down the glen, we come to the village of Llantysilio, and cross the ch.-yard, from whence a charming pathway leads to the bridge over the river.]

The rly. continues along the S. bank of the Dee to Corwen; but the traveller who has time at his command is recommended to drive or walk along

The *terrace road*, which is full of beauties, and in itself, as forming a

portion of Telford's great Holyhead road, is well worthy of observation for its breadth, regularity, and splendid construction. These qualities should obtain for it a consideration similar to that bestowed on the Roman roads. The scenery is certainly very striking. "As the road suddenly comes into the vale of Llantysilio, you feel that you have quite shaken off the Lowlands; and every yard you go heightens the feeling of freedom which the mind associates with a mountain region. Presently brown heathy-grown hills, the ends of the Berwyn chain, come right down to the road, and you begin to taste the delicious aromatic air of a moorland region."—*Cliffe*. For the first 3 m. the road ascends the rt. bank of the Dee, which, changing the character of its rocky bed, now flows sedately in a thickly-wooded glen.

8 m. *Berwyn Stat.* and *Plas Berwyn*, the seat of Col. Tottenham; on the opposite bank are the charming woods and glades of *Llantysilio Hall* (Capt. Reid). The river now takes a considerable horseshoe bend, which is to a great extent cut across by the new road. The corner once turned, a very lovely view of the whole vale up to Corwen is gained—a view, in the eyes of many, superior to that of the vale of Llangollen. At a bend of the road, a little before arriving at the turnpike, we enter *Merionethshire*, which the Holyhead road traverses for 10 m. $11\frac{1}{2}$ m. is the *New Inn*, a small roadside hostelry offering convenient quarters for the angler, who will find good sport in the streams that descend to the Dee from the Berwyn mountains. That river itself is preserved from near Corwen to Llantysilio.

13 m. rt. is a tumulus close to the roadside, known as *Owain Glyndwr's Mount*, supposed to have been the site of his dwelling called Sychart. What Robin Hood is in Nottinghamshire, and Beelzebub in Germany, Owain

Glyndwr is in this part of Wales, the constructor of every eccentric monument, the hero of every wild tale, and the godfather of every *lulus naturæ*. It is, however, certain that he owned a large portion of this district, and it is said that on one spot on the Berwyns, above Corwen, he was accustomed to seat himself and survey more than 40 square m. of his patrimony. His very appellation, Glyndwr or Glyndyvwrdwy, was derived from the "Glen of the waters of the Dee," as his real name was Owain ap Gryfydd. He was the great-grandson of the last Llewelyn, and was, as Shakespeare makes him declare, "brought up in the English court." He was a witness in the famous Scrope and Grosvenor controversy, and was a personal attendant on King Richard, when that unhappy monarch was betrayed into the hands of Bolingbroke. The river separated his property from that of Lord Grey of Ruthin, who claimed the hills to the N. of the Dee as his property; and although a lawsuit settled the case in favour of Glyndwr, Henry IV. so manifestly took the part of Lord Grey that the quarrel was constantly fomented, and attacks and reprisals perpetually carried on, to the great destruction of life and property. Upon the attainder of Owain Glyndwr, the manor of Glyndyvwrdwy was sold by Henry IV. to a 2nd son of Salisbury of Bachynbyd, a younger branch of Llewenni; and passing through the Salisburys, the Pughes of Mathavarn, and Pryses of Gogerddan, it now rests with the heir of the late Sir Robert Vaughan. There are stations at Glyndyvwrdwy and Carrog.

14 m., on the opposite bank of the Dee, is the pretty village of *Llan-santfraid*. 15 m. rt. *Rhagalt*, the seat of E. Lloyd, Esq.

16 m. CORWEN JUNCT. (Rte. 11) (*Hotel: Owain Glyndwr, comfortable*), a quiet little town, scarcely more than a village, which derives its im-

portance from its situation at the junction of several important roads; viz., to Llangollen, Ruthin, Wrexham, Llanrwst, and Bala. For fishermen, too, it is a capital station, but the general tourist will not find much to detain him. It is situated immediately at the foot of Moel Fenni (2050 ft.), the most northerly eminence of the Berwyn range; and though the valley is very pretty, it is rather monotonous and far from attaining the beauty of Llangollen. Nevertheless, the views from the hills are very charming, and offer plenty of inducement to the explorer. Corwen is historically associated in many ways with Glyndwr, as it was the principal rendezvous of the army which he raised to oppose Henry IV. *Caer Drewyn* is a large fortified post on the l. bank of the Dee, surrounded by a circle of loose stones. This was made use of as an encampment by Glyndwr, and previous to his time by Owain Gwynedd in his struggle against Henry II. The ch. contains a monumental semi-effigy to Sulien, at one time a vicar of Corwen. The upper and lower parts of the figure are in relief; the intermediate portion of the monument is flat, having the ecclesiastical vestments expressed by incised lines only. The inscription runs, "HIC IACET IORWERTH SULIEN VICARIUS DE CORVAEN ORA PRO EO." In the churchyard is a cross called the Sword of Glyndwr, and in the ch. a hole in the wall ascribed by tradition to his dagger, when he flung it from him in a passion caused by some quarrel with the townsmen. There is in Corwen an almshouse, founded in 1709 by Mr. Eyton, for 6 widows of Merionethshire clergymen.

Distances.—Rlys. to Llangollen, 10 m.; Ruthin, 12; Bala, 12—by Vale of Edeyrnion, 13; Pentrevoelas, 15; Cerrig-y-druidion, 10; Wrexham, 21; Pont-y-glyn, $5\frac{1}{2}$; Rug, 2.

The rly. to Dolgelley (opened only to Bala, 13 m.) follows the rt. bank

of the Dee, a route known as the vale of Edeyrnion, which should be taken by every pedestrian, and every traveller who is not in a hurry to get on: for though the road is not so good, the views are incomparably finer.

a. Pass 17 m. *Llangar* or *Llangaer* ch. 18 m. at *Cynwydd* Stat. a road on rt. crosses the Dee to join the route to *Pentrevoelas*. There is some very fine scenery in the glens to the l. especially in that of the *Trystiau*, which forms a beautiful waterfall. A bridle-road runs up the glen, and crosses the Berwyns into the vale of the Ceiriog. 21 m., at the village of *Llandrillo* (Stat.), a road on l. ascends the glen of the Afon Dinam, to join at 3 m. that bleakest of all bleak mountain-roads, the Miltfingerig, which crosses the Berwyns between Bala and Llanfyllin (Rte. 21). An excursion of about 9 m. may be made from Llandrillo to Pistyll Rhaiadr, above Llanrhaiadr Mochmant (Rte. 21). 22 m. the Dee is very closely approached as the valley contracts, the road winding at the foot of a brow of great height covered with wood. 23 m. rt. *Crogen* (a seat of Lord Ward's, now occupied by Mr. Robertson). At 23 $\frac{3}{4}$ m. the tourist may cross the Dee at *Pont Llanderfel*, and take his choice of roads, the shortest being the northerly road on the l. bank. A little away from the river is the village of *Llanderfel*. "The ch. was once remarkable for containing a vast wooden image of *Derfel Gadarn*, its patron saint. The Welsh had a prophecy that this image should set a whole forest on fire. On the condemnation of Dr. Forest for treason in 1538 it was sent for and placed under him as fuel when he was burned in Smithfield."—*Nicholson*. The ch. is a good specimen of Late Perp., about the time of Henry VIII., and contains a remarkably good screen; also a curious wooden horse in a recumbent position, known as St. Dervel's horse, which, together

with the saint's staff, still preserved, used to be held in great veneration.

On l. is *Fromhanlog* (Mrs. Davies), and on the opposite bank *Pale* (Mrs. Lloyd). Soon after passing *Llanderfel* Stat. the valley almost closes, and at *Calettwr* it finishes with a nobly-wooded eminence, above which soars the vast mass of the Arenigs. 27 $\frac{1}{2}$ m. the other road from Corwen is joined at *Llanvor*.

29 m. *Bala* Stat.

b. 17 m. at *Rug* a road on rt. goes to *Ruthin* (Rte. 11). *Rug* was the fine family seat of the Vaughans, but, that title having become extinct by the death of Sir Robert Vaughan, it has descended to the Hon. Charles Henry Wynn, the son of Lord Newborough. It formed part of the property of Glyndwr, but on the forfeiture it passed into the hands of the Salisburys and the Vaughans like the rest. Owain's knife, fork, and dagger are still preserved here. A memorial ch. is about to be built in memory of Sir Robt. Vaughan. Between 2 and 3 m. to the N.W. of *Rug* is the ch. of *Bettws Gwerful Goch*, which contains a very interesting screen.

18 m. the *Alwen* is crossed, and a road on l. runs into the Dee valley to join the one through the vale of Edeyrnion. 18 $\frac{3}{4}$ at *Druid Inn*, the Bala road turns to the l., following the course of the Nantlirauan to its very source; on rt. to *Pentrevoelas* (Rte. 13).

21 $\frac{1}{2}$ rt. on *Cefn Crwyni* is the British post of *Caer Crwyni*, and a tower on the summit of the hill to commemorate the coming of age of Sir W. W. Wynn, Bart., who is a large landholder in this part of the country. 27 m. l. the ch. of *Llanwr*, said to have been the burial-place of *Llywarch Hen*, a venerable poet, who died, full of grief at the loss of his 21 sons in battle, at the advanced age of 150. On the opposite side of the road is *Rhiulas*, the fine old seat of the Price family, through the grounds

of which the rapid Tryweryn runs to join the Dee.

28 m. *Bala* (Rte. 21). (*Hotels*: Plas-coch, good; White Lion, comfortable; Bull) is a regularly-built town of one long, broad street, with others intersecting it at rightangles. It formerly possessed a considerable business in the making of socks and stockings, which has been to a great extent annihilated by the machinery of the northern manufacturing towns. Knitting is still a favourite method of employ with most of the country folk, and the hands of the old women coming to market are rarely unoccupied. Bala shares with Dolgelley the assize business of the county of Merioneth. The town itself has no history attached to it, although it has been conjectured that it was a Roman summer station on the great line of road which ran from Uriconium (Wroxeter) and Mediolanum (Meifod) to Heriri Mons (Tomen-y-Mur) and Segontium (Caernarvon). A *Tomen*, or tumulus, by the side of the road, at the entrance of the town, is supposed to be of Roman origin, and there are also in the neighbourhood the station of *Cuer Gai*, and the encampment of *Cuer Gronw*, fortified by Gronw, a Welsh chief, in the time of Maelgwyn Gwynedd. Bala possesses a good grammar-school, and a college for Calvinistic Methodists, established in 1837 in honour of the Rev. Thomas Charles, one of the most shining lights that Welsh Dissent ever produced. There is also an Independent College, at which 20 young men are educated for that ministry. This district has ever since been a stronghold of Methodism. As a pleasant contrast, it has been equally celebrated for the beauty of its natives. Lord Lyttleton declared "that he saw here the prettiest girls he ever beheld;" and Roscoe and sturdy old Nicholson both descant with much gusto on the same topic. Bala is situated at the very head of Bala Lake, *Llyn Tegid*.

[N. Wales.]

or *Pimblemere*, for by all these names is this fine sheet of water, the largest in Wales, known. The latter appellation is derived from Pimp Llwy, or the lake of the 5 parishes which border it. It is in length somewhat under 4 m., and more than $\frac{1}{2}$ m. in breadth, and lies in the bosom of a fair valley guarded by the peaks of the Berwyns, the Arenigs, Aran Benllyn, and their subordinate hills.

"Hic lacus illimeis in valle Segeius altâ
Latè expandit aquas et vastum conficit
orbem;
Excipiens gremio latices, qui fonte perenni
Vicinis recedunt de montibus atque sonoris
Illecebris captas demulcent suaviter aures

The most beautiful views of the lake are from the Mallwyd road, which runs on the E. border: none of them, however, rival in loveliness those of the English lakes, perhaps for the reason that the mountains do not rise so immediately from the banks, but at some distance off. "To appreciate the beauties of Bala as they deserve, the tourist should first ascend the craggy summit of the neighbouring mountains, and gaze upon the rude glens beyond, through which the boisterous *Twrch* rushes in a succession of resounding falls."—*Roscoe*. At the southern end the river *Dwfrdwy* enters the lake, and has been curiously supposed to be identical with the Dee, which emerges from the upper end. The tradition states that the waters of the Dee do not mix with those of the lake—

"That when Dee in his course faine in her lap
would lie
Commixtrous with her store, his stream
shee doth deny.
By his complexion prov'd, as he through her
doth glide,
Her wealth again from his shee likewise
doth divide."—*Drayton*.

A similar legend is told of *Llyn Savaddan*, in Breconshire, the Lake of Geneva, and various others. The depth of *Llyn Tegid* is very great, especially at *Bryngoleu*, about the middle, where it is 138 ft. It is said to be agitated to such an extent by

certain strong winds, that the waters are driven up to a height of 8 or 10 ft., and completely inundate a large portion of the Vale of Edeyrnion. In a thunderstorm which took place in 1781, the Twrch, which flows in at the S. end, poured such a volume of water into the lake that it overflowed its banks and swept away 17 houses. Another singular assertion propounded by the old writers was that the gwyniad and the same kind of salmon that were found in the Dee did not inhabit the lake :—

“ Those white fish that in her doe wondrously
abound

Are never seene in him ; nor are his salmons
found

At any time in her.”

The gwyniad is a fish peculiar to these waters, and caught nowhere else in Wales. It is so called from the whiteness of its scales. The lake affords capital trout of large size, perch from $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ lb., roach and eels, also some magnificent pike which, when first introduced, well-nigh destroyed all the trout. The right of fishing belonged exclusively to the monks of Basingwerk Abbey, but now belongs to Sir Watkin Wynn, Bart., who has a fishing villa at the southern end : he gives free permission to any angler to fish. Many pleasant excursions can be made from Bala—to the Arenig Mountains (Rte. 21), and to Dinas Mowddwy and Aran Benllyn (Rte. 23). The geology of this district is very interesting. “ The sandstones, slates, and limestones are the absolute equivalents of the Caradoc shelly sandstone in Shropshire. The chief limestone of this group exposed in low hills near the town and lake of Bala is so impure that it is now never used for burning, and, dwindling away to the S.S.W., is lost among the slaty strata. The fossils are identical with those imbedded in the flanks of Caer Caradoc.”—*Siluria*.

Distances.—Dolgelley, 18 m. : Corwen, 13 ; Llyn Arenig, $6\frac{1}{2}$; Ffestiniog,

19 ; Llandrillo, 8 ; Dinas Mowddwy, 18 ; Llangollen, 22.

Conveyances.—Coaches daily to Dolgelley.

The road to Dolgelley for the first 4 m. skirts the western bank of the lake, passing, $30\frac{1}{2}$ m., *Llan-y-cil*, the mother church of the parish in which the town of Bala is situated. On the opposite shore are *Graiennyn* (J. Jones, Esq.) and *Vachdeiliog* (G. Jones, Esq.). $32\frac{1}{2}$ m. the river Llafar is crossed at *Glan-y-Llyn*, a fishing seat belonging to Sir W. W. Wynn. It rises in the *Arenig*, which towers up on the rt. to the height of 2809 ft., very little inferior to that of Cader Idris. The ch. tower on the other side of the lake is that of *Llangower*.

$33\frac{3}{4}$ m. rt. is the eminence of *Caer Gai*, supposed, from the discovery of tiles, to have been a Roman fort.

$34\frac{1}{2}$ m., on l. is the village of *Llanuwchllyn*, the ch. of which contains a monument of a knight in armour, whose duty it was to attend the judges in their assize journeys and protect them from the attacks of banditti. The road gradually ascends the valley of the *Dwfrdwy*, which takes its rise in 2 small brooks about 2 m. W. of the summit of Aran Benllyn, which, with its still loftier sister Aran Mowddwy, rises on the l. to 2955 ft.

At 37 m., after a bleak and tedious ascent, the summit of the watershed is reached, and the valley of the *Wnion* entered. The farmhouse of *Drws-y-nant* is situated so exactly at the highest point, that the water which drips from each side of the roof in rainy weather is said to find its ultimate destination in the sea at Chester and Barmouth respectively. The distant peaks of Cader Idris are now the principal and most attractive object in the descent to Dolgelley. 45 m. l. is *Dolserau* (E. L. Edwards, Esq.), and rt. *Nannau Park*, the beautiful demesne of John Vaughan, Esq.

(p. 137). 47 m. a rapid descent through a thickly-wooded glen leads to *Dolgelley* (*Hotels*: Golden Lion; Ship: both good) (Rte. 22).

ROUTE 4.

CHESTER TO BANGOR, BY FLINT, RHYL, ABERGELE, AND CONWAY.

Chester (*Hotels*: Queen's, at the station, first-rate; Grosvenor Hotel, first-class; Royal, Albion — both comfortable). Pop. 31,110. The rly. stat. is of great size, and serves as a central point for the Shrewsbury, Holyhead, Crewe, Mold, Birkenhead, and Manchester lines. The amount of traffic consequently is very large, and in race times more than 25,000 people have passed through in a single day. The length of the façade and platform is 1160 ft. The cost was about 230,000*l.*, and the whole station, with the adjoining Queen's Hotel, forms a fine pile of building. Few, if any, towns in Great Britain attract so many visitors of all classes and tastes as does this ancient city, partly from its central position on the high road between London and Ireland, and partly from the numerous and varied objects of interest, particularly of antiquity, with which it abounds.

The past and the present are here linked together to a degree that

exists rarely in this country, unless, indeed, at "old imperial York," or still imperial London. Our knowledge, however, commences when the 20th Legion, surnamed *Vietrix*, lay in garrison here previous to the year 60, a fact borne out by many coins and remains discovered at different times. The Roman name of Chester was *Deva*, the city on the *Dee*, and it was also called *Cestriæ* and *Castra Legionis*, and, by the British, *Caer Lleon*, all names of the same signification. Holinshed considers that Ostorius Scapula was the founder; it is, however, certain that it gained a high reputation under the command of Agricola; and while the Romans were here, much of the framework of the occupations of the county, as it at present exists, and many towns, villages, and the roads leading between them (which we traverse without thinking they are Roman roads), were first established. Often a name, such as that of *Arowry* (*Apouρη*, a ploughed land), near *Hammer*, or the *Striga Lane* (from *Striga*, a hollow way), near the same place, indicates their former presence. When the Legions withdrew from Britain, Chester soon suffered from the approach of the Saxons and Northmen; and in 607 *Ethelfrid*, King of Northumbria, devastated the town, and, at the same time, destroyed the Christian monastery of *Bangor Iscoed* (Rte. 1). Destroyed by the Danes in 894, it was rebuilt by *Ethelred* King of Mercia, subsequently to which it is said that King *Edgar* made a triumphal visit, his boat being manned by 6 subject kings, "whom he (thus toucht with imperious affection of glory), sitting at the sterne, compelled to row him over *Dee* to *St. John's*." William the Conqueror granted *Cheshire* as a County Palatine to *Hugh Lupus*, with as much land to be added to his Palatinate as he could win against the Welsh. A large portion, if not all, of the pre-

sent county of Flint, was thus included in it, and is the only part of Wales surveyed in Domesday Book. Eight barons were created by the Earl Palatine, of whom the 7th was Gilbert Venables, Baron of Kinderton. The descendants of this gentleman claimed to be called Barons of Kinderton as late as the last centy., and were so described when serving in Parliament in the Journals of the House of Commons. The Earl Palatine held sway until 1237, when Henry III. united the earldom to the crown, since which time the Prince of Wales has been himself created by patent Earl of Chester. In the reign of Charles I. the loyal town was besieged and forced to surrender after a determined resistance by the inhabitants, who held out for the king until famine drove them to terms. The first charter was granted to Chester in 1128 by Ranulph, the 3rd earl.

Chester, or West Chester, as it was called, was long a seaport among those of chief importance in the kingdom. The watergate was on the west side of the city, and the Water Tower, now standing on the rising bank of a garden beneath the walls, shows where ships and vessels were moored in ancient days. It is still a port, and a considerable number of ships are built upon the river, and, amongst others, was the unfortunate 'Royal Charter.'

The *form* and arrangement of the city is simple enough, four main streets intersecting each other, as was doubtless the case in its earliest construction. "It is built in the form of a quadrant, and is almost a just square; the 4 cardinal streets thereof (as I may call them) meeting in the middle of the city, at a place called the Pentise, which affordeth a pleasant prospect at once into all four."—*Fuller*.

The *Walls*, one of its most peculiar features, entirely surround the city at a height varying from 12 ft. to

40 ft., affording a very pleasant walk of nearly 2 m.; though, as the population has considerably increased, a large and important district is necessarily extramural. The entrance through the walls is maintained by its principal gates, the N., E., bridge, and water gates, but these have all been rebuilt within the last cent. The gates of the city were confided to the guardianship of the valiant and wise heads of the noblest families: for foes threatened the city from every quarter, and vigilant watchmen ever looked abroad from its walls.

Besides the many objects of interest well seen from the walls, they contain in themselves some valuable antiquarian remains, especially the *Phoenix Tower*, so called from its being marked with a phoenix, the crest of the Painters and Stationers' Company, the tower having been used as a chamber of business by various city companies. From the summit, as the visitor is informed by the inscription, Charles I. had the grief of seeing his army, under Sir Marmaduke Langdale, defeated at Rowton Moor, Sept. 27, 1645, by the Parliamentary force under General Pointz. The Ellesmere canal flows underneath, through a deep cutting in the new red sandstone. Between the tower and the E. gate remains of Roman masonry are visible. "The walls enclose an oblong parallelogram, and most undoubtedly stand, for a large portion of their extent, on Roman foundations, as is indisputably proved by the remains of the ancient E. gate discovered in erecting the present arch, and some relics of masonry still existing."—*Ormerod's Cheshire*.

At the N.W. angle is the *Water Tower*, projecting some little distance from the wall, and approached by a turret known as *Bonwaldsthorne's Tower*, from which there is an open embattled gallery, having below it a circular arch, beneath which the tide

flowed previous to the embankment of the Dee. The Water Tower was erected in 1322 by a mason named Helpstone for 100*l.*, and still preserves the marks of the mooring-places for vessels. There are now a museum and camera in it. The Chester and Holyhead Rly. is carried underneath this angle of the wall.

The other mural remains are *Morgan's Mount*, near the N. gate, a platform with a chamber underneath, as though for a sentry station; and *Pemberton's Parlour*, a portion of its old tower having been repaired together with some of the wall in Queen Anne's reign. With such a distant panorama as the mountains of the vale of Clwyd, the Dee, the plains of Cheshire, the hills of Beeston, and the ancient city for a foreground, the inhabitants may well feel pride and pleasure in their walls.

Perhaps the most striking feature in Chester—indeed almost unique and peculiar to it—are the *Rows*; according to Fuller, “a property of building peculiar to the city, being galleries, wherein the passengers go dry without coming into the streets, having shops on both sides and underneath; the fashion thereof being somewhat hard to conceive.” From their sheltered position and the fact that the best shops are to be found in them, particularly in those of Eastgate and Bridge-st., the visitor may expect to find the streets comparatively deserted, while all that is fashionable in Chester congregates in the Rows. The Rows are merely a continuous passage formed by cutting away the fronts of the first floor rooms of all the houses for public traffic. The same kind of building may be seen in country townships in Cheshire and elsewhere; and it is nothing but a rude approximation to the mode of architecture in many towns in the north of Italy. That they may be a relic of the Roman arrangements, as is sometimes

supposed, is far from impossible. In addition to the general old-fashioned appearance of the Rows, many of the houses show interesting examples of timber-work and carving, including that particular style of ornamented plaster-work, known as “*pargetting*,” in which the patterns are raised or indented upon it. Many shops have been rebuilt in the same antique fashion; but there are still old timbered gable houses with their carving and ornaments as originally designed. One of these old tenements is on the S. side of Watergate-street, and has carved on a beam “God's Providence is mine inheritance, 1652,” alluding to the time when the plague devastated the city, the inhabitants of this house being almost the only ones who escaped. In the same street, but lower down, is *Bishop Lloyd's* residence 1604, of which the whole front is enriched with carvings of scriptural subjects and armorial bearings. Near this again is another ornamented house, known as the Palace of the *Stanley family*, 1591. It is approached through a narrow passage nearly opposite Trinity Ch., and is parcelled out into workmen's cottages. Near this is the Yacht Tavern, the temporary quarters of *Dean Swift*, who wrote on the window the following sarcastic remarks on the cathedral body:—

“Rotten without and mouldering within.
This place and its clergy are nearly akin.”

In Bridge-street is an old house where Charles I. was lodged during the siege of Chester by the Parliamentary forces; also an ancient inn, known as the Falcon. In the same street are antiquities of still earlier date, viz. an hypocaust and remains of a Roman sweating-bath, which may be seen in a cellar belonging to an earthenware-shop in Bridge-street. A chapel or crypt with an E. E. doorway was also discovered in 1830 in the same street, on the

premises of Messrs. Powell and Edwards, ironmongers. A second crypt was cleared in 1858 in East-gate-street, containing a good E. E. groined roof. It is supposed to have been the basement floor of some baronial mansion.

The *Cathedral*, though not to be compared with many others in the kingdom, is nevertheless a venerable pile, an additional appearance of age being acquired from the mouldering character of the new red sandstone of which it is built, and which, weathering badly, gives a peculiarly ragged outline. As far back as the 2nd cent. a monastery was erected here to St. Peter and St. Paul, which in the 10th cent. was called after St. Werburgh, by Ethelfleda Countess of Mercia. Hugh Lupus changed the monastery into an abbey of Benedictine monks, in whose possession it remained until 1541, when the abbey of St. Werburgh became the cathedral-ch. of the see of Chester, created by Henry VIII. Its revenues at the Dissolution amounted to 1073*l.*, a large sum in those days. During the feast of St. Werburgh a great fair was held, at which time the privilege of sanctuary was extended to every evil-doer who was present at it. It happened that on one occasion during its continuance Earl Randal was besieged by the Welsh in Rhuddlan Castle, and, being hard pressed, sent for help to his constable at Chester, who, having no available forces, marched off to the rescue with all the vagabonds who thronged the fair, and by mere appearance of superior numbers put the Welsh to flight (Rte. 4). The cathedral consists of nave, with side aisles, transepts, choir, Lady chapel, and central tower. The greater portion of the building is of rich Perp. The most striking feature in the interior is the exceeding length of the S. transept, which nearly equals that of the nave, and exceeds that of the choir. It also possesses

side aisles, whereas the N. transept has none, and is moreover remarkably short.

The interior of the nave is considerably marred by the absence of a stone vaulted roof and the substitution of a wooden one, which detracts somewhat from the height. See in N. aisle monument to Capt. John Moore Napier, with epitaph by his uncle, the hero of Meeanee. The choir, 78 ft. high, 125 ft. long, contains very rich tabernacle work from the organ-loft to the *Bishop's throne*, originally the shrine of St. Werburgh. On one of the finely-carved stalls is delineated the Root of Jesse, a favourite subject with ancient carvers and glass-stainers: see a fine stone screen at the back of the Bishop's throne, on the upper part of which is a range of small images supposed to represent the saints and kings of Mercia. The *Lady Chapel* has some good memorial and E. E. windows: it was well restored in 1857, and its stone roof uncovered. Here was held the Consistory Court which condemned George Marsh to be burned at the stake in Queen Mary's day; and here is the grave of Bp. Pearson, who wrote 'The Exposition of the Creed.' See his monument.

The S. transept is used as the parish ch. of St. Oswald, having been set apart for that purpose by Earl Lupus in 1093. In the S. aisle is an altar-tomb, ascribed to Henry IV., Emperor of Germany; also 3 coffin-lids with wheel crosses, marking the burial-places of 3 abbesses. On the N. of the nave are some tombs where the early Norm. abbots were interred. In the N. transept is a curious needle-work picture representing Elymas the sorcerer. The most interesting part of the whole edifice is the *Chapter-room*, which contains beautiful E. E. windows and pillars. The Library is placed in it. Here was discovered in 1723 the skeleton of Hugh Lupus, who was reinterred here by

his nephew Randal Earl of Chester. The cloisters are of good Perp. work and in fair preservation, with the exception of the S. side, which is wanting. Opening from the W. is a vaulted Norm. chamber supported by massive pillars. This apartment (which is only dimly lighted from the cloister) is considered by some antiquaries to have been a Promptuary or buttery, while others believe it to have been an entertaining hall, where the abbots dispensed their hospitality.

The *Abbey Gate* possesses a good Norm. arch, above which is the Bishop's Registry.

The antiquary will find in the extramural ch. of *St. John* sufficient to repay a visit, even if Chester contained nothing else. It may be reached by passing through the city wall by New Gate. Its foundation dates from Saxon times (end of 7th cent.).

A local legend says that King Ethelred "was admonished to erect it on a spot where he should find a white hind." It was formerly collegiate, and a cruciform ch. of great magnificence, consisting of nave, transepts, choir, side aisles, and a central tower, which, however, fell in 1574, and carried with it the choir, the present chancel occupying the space under the old tower and E. end of nave. The ch. has been well restored by Hussey, and the hideous pews, &c., removed. Notice particularly the massiveness and dignity of the Early Norm. pillars, 5 ft. 6 in. in diameter, which separate the nave from the aisles; also, above them, the unique double row or triforium of arches springing from light shafts. There are some Norm. blocked piers in the chancel, on each side of which a chapel was added at a subsequent period. The one to the S. of the communion-table contains a curious medallion and skeleton monument. The entrance on the N. side is through a splendid Pointed door-

way, close to which, but detached from the remainder of the ch., rises the belfry, a square tower of new red sandstone, 150 ft. in height. It is worth while ascending to the summit for the sake of the view over the city and river. Outside the E. end of the ch. are the picturesque ruins of the original chancel or Lady Chapel, the exquisite Norm. arches of which still attest its former beauty. King Harold is said to have retired to Chester after the battle of Hastings, and dwelt in a small cell on the S. wall of this ch. yard. It is gratifying to think that an energetic movement, headed by the liberality of the Marq. of Westminster, has at last swept away the abominations which encumbered St. John's, and restored it as such a splendid example of Norm. architecture deserves.

St. Peter's Ch. is also believed to have been founded by Ethelfleda Countess of Mercia; it does not, however, contain much of interest. It is placed in the very centre of the city, where the 4 streets meet—"the Pentise" of Fuller, which Pennant considers to have been the site of the Roman Prætorium.

St. Mary's Ch., near the castle, was founded about the 12th cent. In it is the monument to Thomas Gamol, 1613, with alabaster figures; and an altar-tomb to Philip Oldfield, 1616, habited in the dress of the period.

Trinity Ch. contains the graves of Matthew Henry, the Commentator, a Nonconformist, and Parnell, the poet, Archdeacon of Clogher, d. 1718, whose family were connected with Congleton, in this county.

The Castle, as it at present stands, is a wide-spread Grecian edifice, with a Doric temple for an entrance (!), and not one feature of a castle. The building which preceded it was originally a Norman (Hugh Lupus), or, perhaps, a Roman fortress. The wings are a military barrack, while the centre comprises the Shire Hall,

Assize Court, and County Gaol. It is used for military purposes, a detachment of soldiers being usually stationed here, and a large stand of arms is kept, the object of a foolish raid of the Fenians in 1867, which fortunately was frustrated. Only one portion of the old building is left, a square tower, called *Cæsar's*, or *Julius Agricola's Tower*, used as a powder magazine, within which is a chapel with a vaulted and groined roof. From its commanding position on the Dee, the castle is an important feature in Chester views.

Beyond the Castle the Dee is crossed by the *Grosvenor Bridge*, remarkable for the wide span (200 ft.) of its stone arch, the architect of which was the late Mr. Harrison. It commands a fine view of the *Roodee* or *Roodeye*, famous in the annals of horse-racing as being the ground on which the Chester Cup is run for. In 1540 a bell of silver, of the value of three and sixpence or more, was annually given by the Sadlers' Company "to him who shall run the best on horseback." This arrangement was subsequently changed, and it was decreed that "that horse which with speede did over-runne the rest, lead the beste cuppe there presently delivered; and that horse which came seconde, next the firste, before the reste, had the second cuppe there also delivered." The course is about a mile round, and though, with the ancient town walls and the rising ground across the river girdling it in, it forms a most beautiful amphitheatre, and affords, with the enormous mass of people gathered to see the races, the only sight capable to be compared with a Roman spectacle, it is much too small for the stride and number of thorough-bred horses that are brought to run there in particular races, and bad accidents have been of too-frequent occurrence. Nevertheless there is no finer English scene than the Roodee, at the period

of the cup race in May. The other points of interest for the visitor to Chester are the *Exchange* in Northgate-street, erected at the close of the 17th cent., and adorned on the S. front by a statue of Queen Anne, and the *Musie Hall*, built on the site of the ancient chapel of St. Nicholas. Mysteries and pageants were at one time, as at Shrewsbury, a great feature in Chester life, and during Whitsun week a succession of brave sights was enacted for the delight of the spectators in the Rows. They were abolished by the Corporation in 1678.

Railways. — To Manchester and Crewe, 21 m.; London, 187; Liverpool, 16; Holyhead, 84; Wrexham, 11; Holywell, 18; Tlangollen, 24; Shrewsbury, 42; Mold, 13; Bangor, 60.

[A visit should be paid to *Eaton Hall* (3 m.), the magnificent seat of the Marquis of Westminster. It is shown to the public in June, July, Aug.—on Mond., Tues., and Wed., 10 A.M. to 2 P.M.; to foreigners only on Thurs.—by tickets, to be purchased at fixed prices in Chester at the hotels and booksellers' shops. The proceeds go to the charities of Chester. The chief entrance is by the *Grosvenor Lodge*, a handsome building designed after St. Augustine's Gateway, Canterbury, which is but a short distance from the Grosvenor Bridge. From thence a drive of 3 m. runs through the well-timbered park to the Hall. It is one of the most magnificent seats in Britain, but the style, Florid Ecclesiastical Gothic, was a mistake. It was adopted before Gothic was well understood, and, although nearly a million has been expended on it, the result is not satisfactory. There are several groups of statuary by *Gibson* (Amazons) and *Sir R. Westmacott*.

The following is a list of the principal paintings in the house:—

In the dining-room : The Meeting of David and Abigail, *Rubens* ; The Judgment of Paris, after *Rubens*, by *Peters*. In the chapel : The Descent from the Cross, after *Rubens*, by *Weiser* ; St. Michael and the Dragon, after *Guido*, by *Evans*. In the drawing-room : The Wise Men's Offering, *Rubens* ; Battle of the Boyne and Battle of La Hogue, both by *West* ; Christ and the Woman of Samaria, *Mignard* ; Antiochus and Stratonice, *P. da Cortona*. There are also many family portraits by *Sir Peter Lely* and others. In a long corridor are many portraits of the racehorses which have belonged to this family, for more than 100 years famous on the turf. The gardens and grounds are of great beauty, part laid out as a pinetum. In the garden is a Roman altar found at Chester, and inscribed "Nymphis et fontibus ;" also a Greek sacrificial altar, brought by the Marquis of Westminster from Delphi. The visitor may, if he prefer, go by water from Chester to Eaton Hall, the distance from St. John's Ch. being 6 m.]

For the first 2 m. the rly. is carried past the walls, the Roodee, and the outskirts of Chester, to *Saltney*, from whence it keeps a direct N.W. course through a flat alluvial country to

7 m. *Queensferry* Stat. (*Inn*: Hawarden Arms.) The rly. runs parallel with the Dee, which, by an Act obtained in 1732, was embanked, and by this means 50,000 acres were reclaimed for agricultural purposes. A portion of it is still called *Sealand*. A considerable traffic is maintained across the ferry, as, by going from thence to Sutton Stat., a saving of some miles is effected between the towns on the Welsh side and Birkenhead.

Conveyances.—Daily to Sutton ; also to Mold and Flint.

[2 m. l., overlooking the surrounding country, stand the little town and eastle of *Hawarden* (*Inn*: Glynne Arms). The latter is a modern castellated residence of the last cent., with later additions, and is the seat of Sir Stephen Glynne, Bart., and the frequent residence of Mr. Gladstone. In the park, which is varied and picturesque, are the keep and ruined walls of the *ancient Castle*, of Edwardian age, consisting of a drum keep and a curious outwork called the Dungeon, but probably a *Sallyport*, from which the garrison could issue and outflank the besieger. From the summit of the keep is a very fine view of the Vale of the Dee. It was surprised on the night of Palm Sunday, 1282, by the Welsh under David, brother of Prince Llewelyn, who seized in his bed its owner, the Lord Justiceary de Clifford, and carried him off prisoner, slaughtering many knights who were among the garrison. The eastle was sequestered by the Parliament after its capture by their forces under Gen. Mytton, 1645, and was dismantled by its purchaser, Serjeant Glynne (a friend of Cromwell), in whose family it has remained ever since. It was originally the seat of the barons of Mont Alt, and afterwards of the Stanleys.

The inhabitants of Hawarden (pronounced Harden) were formerly distinguished by the sobriquet of "Harden Jews," gained for them according to a local legend in the following manner :—In 946 the town possessed a temple, in which was an image of the Virgin Mary, holding in the hands a large cross or rood. To this image did the townsfolk pray long and lustily for rain during a very dry summer. But their prayers were fruitless ; and, more, the holy cross fell on the Governor's wife, and killed her. Whereupon the inhabitants solemnly tried the Virgin for murder and inattention to their cries, and came to the decision that she should suffer death by drowning ;

and, in fulfilment of this, they carried the image to the river and left it there to be carried away by the tide. It was found next day by the citizens of Chester close to their gates. This story gave rise to the following doggrel:—

"The Jews their Gods did crucify,
The Hardners theirs did drown," &c.

The *Ch.*, Early Eng., was restored after its destruction by fire in 1857. It contains a good memorial window to Capt. Dundas, the subject being Ary Scheffer's *Christus Consolator*. *Aston Hall*, in the vicinity of Hawarden, is the seat of Sir J. Dundas. *Trueman's Hill*, outside the town, was an early British post in the days when Hawarden was written *Haordin* in the Saxon Dom. Book.

Distances.—Chester, 7 m.; Northop, 5; Flint, 9½; Queensferry, 2; Mold, 7.

2 m. rt. are the ruins of *Ewloe Castle*, at the head of two lovely dingles, through one of which, doubtless, ran an ancient road towards the Dee, following the course of the *Wepre brook*. These ruins are difficult to find, and, when found, to approach, from the dense thicket of underwood with which they are surrounded. One semi-round, one square tower, and some thick walls, of the date of the 13th cent., are all that is now left of the "ruinous castelet" mentioned by Leland. In the adjoining wood of *Coed Ewloe* a great defeat was experienced in 1156 by a detachment of Henry II.'s English army, while on its way to surprise Owain Gwynedd's camp at Basingwerk, but which was attacked by Conon and Dafydd, the sons of Owain, while in the recesses of the dingle, and routed with great slaughter. The whole course of the *Wepre Brook*, from its source on Buckley Mount to its junction with the Dee, is romantic and pretty. Between Ewloe and the

rly. it passes *Wepre Hall* (H. A. Jones, Esq.).

On l. of the road to *Northop* is the busy mining district of *Buckley Mountain*, where a considerable population is employed in the tile-works, collieries, and potteries. From Buckley a rly. runs to Hope Junct. (Rte. 10), from whence the traveller can diverge either to Mold or to Wrexham. The line was made for the purpose of conveying the produce of the mineral district to Connah's Quay, a small port near Queensferry. From the table-lands, which run from Hawarden parallel with the coast to Flint and Holywell, extensive views are obtained over the wide estuary extending into the Irish sea. Here is the place where "*Lycidas*" was shipwrecked; and here, at low water, divided by an uncertain and dangerous channel, stretch far out the sands known to modern literature by the beautiful song in the novel of '*Alton Locke*':—

"O Mary, go and call the cattle home,
Across the sands of Dee."

Seen when the tide is in, the Dee appears a magnificent river, fit for a commercial navy, which might be attracted by the riches of its shores, the coals of its immediate basin, the lead from the limestone hills above, the ancient smelting trade, which is, as it has been, one of its prerogatives.—all these might be expected to line its anchorages, which are, on the contrary, a solitary waste of waves. This requires a remedy, which will never be efficiently applied until its waters as far as Mostyn deeps are confined in a ship canal.

5 m. *Northop*, a pretty village with one of the finest Perp. chs. in N. Wales, next to Wrexham. The tower, 98 ft. high, is of 5 stages, and should be ascended for the sake of the view. In the interior, which has been handsomely restored, there is excellent stained glass, some carv-

ing of the 17th cent. under the pulpit, and 4 stone effigies in the N. aisle in memory of Edwyn, a Welsh prince, 1073; Ithel Vychan ap Bled-dyn, 14th cent.; and a female, by name Leuci Lloyd, 1482, who was famous for her great beauty. In the immediate neighbourhood are *Highfield Hall* (J. Huntley, Esq.), and *Soughton Hall* (Rev. E. Banks). 5 roads diverge from this village, viz. to Mold, Halkin, Flint, Harwarden, and Connah's Quay near Queensferry. About $2\frac{1}{2}$ m. to the N.W. is *Moel-y-gaer*, a very perfect fortified British post, the rampart of which encloses a circle of 196 yds. in diameter. It occupies the S. extremity of the *Halkin Mount*, the most important of the chain of hills which run N. and S., and form the broken outlines of that hill-system of which the Clwydian chain is the back-bone. A large number of silver and lead mines have rendered this district very valuable to the owners, particularly to the Grosvenor family, in whose favour they were alienated from the Crown in the time of Charles I. It is said that from the one mine alone of *Pant-y-go* they realized more than half a million of money. [The largest lead-works in the vicinity of Halkin are *Pen-y-bryn*, *Rhosasmor*, and *Henblas*.] *Halkin Castle* is a seat of the Marquis of Westminster. The scenery on the road from Halkin to Flint, as also from Northop to Flint ($4\frac{1}{2}$ m.), embraces the expanse of the Dee estuary and the opposite Cheshire coast, dotted with villages and seats. The largest of the villages is the watering-place of Parkgate.

$1\frac{1}{2}$ m. l. *Bryn Edwin* (T. Lewis, Esq.), the site of an ancient residence of Edwyn the Welsh prince commemorated in Northop ch. $3\frac{1}{2}$ m. l. *Cornist Hall* (Miss Eyton).]

$12\frac{1}{2}$ m. from Chester is *Flint* (*Inn*: Royal Oak), the importance of which is not to be estimated by the rather di-

lapidated assemblage of houses which form its lonely street. The population is in the various adjacent works and mines. A large manufacture of alkali is carried on here; and when the difficulties attending the silting up of the Dee navigation and the sands are redressed, commerce will return to her ancient outlet. A trade in boxwood for pulleys and manufacturing requirements is carried on from hence with the Black Sea. The name of Flint does not occur in 'Domesday,' but in the earliest extant records it is called "Castrum apud le Flynt," a corruption of the Latin word "fluentum." [Here, to the head of an ancient ford and the wide marshes by the estuary side, the Romans brought their ores from Halkin to be smelted, the slag and dross of their hearths being still visible a little way out of the town, which bears a Welsh name signifying "The town of the fiery furnace."] King Edward I. built the present castle, the bill and accounts of which are extant in the Record Office. The king is also mentioned in an old record to have ridden over the ford when he came into Wales. Flintshire was one of the Welsh counties created by him in the Royal edict commonly called the Statute of Rhuddlan. There are some baths, though the tourist will scarcely imagine that the muddy banks of the Dee would attract any but invalids for whom iodine is specially prescribed. The *Castle*, while partaking of the general aspect of decay, yet sufficiently betokens its early importance, and is an interesting example of the castles of the time of Edward I. The design consists of a square court abutting on the sea, with truncated corners and towers at the angles, while the keep is detached from the citadel. This latter, which is formed by a massive round tower, is called the Double Tower, and is connected by a drawbridge. It apparently obtained its name from its having con-

centric walls, between which ran a gallery opening into a central area. The destructive action of the sea has caused some of the towers and a portion of wall to give way. Flint Castle has been immortalized by Shakespeare, from its having been the scene of the meeting of the unfortunate Richard II. with Bolingbroke, A.D. 1399 :—

‘ Go to the rude ribs of that ancient castle ;
Through brazen trumpet send the breath
of parle
Into his ruin’d ears, and thus deliver :
Henry Bolingbroke,
Upon his knees, doth kiss king Richard’s
hand.”

The Earl of Northumberland, assuming the character of a mediator, persuaded the king to meet him near Conway, declaring that the sole wish of the Duke of Lancaster was to hold a free parliament and have his estates restored to him. During the ride, however, the king found himself surrounded by an unexpected body of men, under whose guard he was hurriedly conveyed to Flint, where, though at first received with pretended courtesy and loyalty, his deposition was soon effected. Bolingbroke, entering the castle fully armed, his basinet excepted, bent his knee for the last time before the king, who, uncovering himself, addressed him—“Fair cousin of Lancaster, you are welcome.” “My Lord,” answered Henry, “I am come before my time ; but your people complain that they have been governed too rigorously for 20 years. If it please God, I will help you to govern them better.” “Fair cousin,” replied Richard, “since it pleaseth you, it pleaseth me ;” and he was conveyed next day to Chester on “two little nagges not worth 40 frankes.” The next incidents in the history of Flint consist in the garrisoning of the castle on behalf of the king by Sir Roger Mostyn during the Civil War. He was compelled to yield in 1643 to Sir W. Brereton after a long-continued siege, and

the castle was dismantled in 1647 by order of the Parliament. Flint, with the towns of Mold, Holywell, Rhuddlan, Caerwys, St. Asaph, Caerwyle, and Overton, as its contributory boroughs, spread over a wide district of country, returns one member to the House of Commons. There are here some excellent parochial schools. The ch., which is modern, contains a monument executed at Rome to the memory of the late Mrs. Muspratt, but nothing else there is remarkable. The county-gaol occupies a portion of the castle land and buildings.

Conveyances.—Daily to Queensferry and Liverpool.

Distances.—Chester, 12½ m. ; Holywell, 4½ ; Halkin, 3 ; Mold, 7½ ; Northop, 4½.

A little to l. of rly. is *Counsylt* or *Coleshill*, the scene of an even more unfortunate reverse than the English army sustained at Coed Ewloe (p. 34). Henry II. advancing upon Owain Gwynedd’s camp at Basingwerk, was so hard pressed by the Welsh, that the standard of England was left behind by its bearer Henry Essex, while the king himself narrowly escaped being taken prisoner. In the very curious book called the ‘Chronicle of Jocelyn of Brakelonde,’ published some years since, the writer mentions that he saw this recreant knight, who was degraded for his cowardice, as a monk in the abbey of Reading.

10 m. *Bagillt Stat.* affords more promise of a profitable sojourn to the commercial man than the tourist, who, unless he has much time on his hands, will not stop to view the numerous lead smelting and desilverising works. The line runs so close to the water’s edge that the traveller gains many a pleasant view of the gradually widening estuary and the Cheshire coast, while on the l. even the smoke of collieries and manu-

factories cannot altogether spoil the foliage on the hills.

Bagillt Hall, formerly the seat of the Panton family, is on a slope on l.

17 m. *Holywell Stat.*, from which the town is distant nearly 2 m. On the brow of the hill, only a few hundred yards from the station, are the neglected though still beautiful ruins of *Basingwerk Abbey*, looking sadly out of place amongst the intrusion of chimneys, tramroads, and inclined planes, which dispute possession of the ground with it, causing every visitor to regret that what is left of these venerable buildings is not fenced off and kept in some decent order. The original founder of the abbey, which was called by the Welsh *Maesglas*, or the cloister-field, is not known, but it is conjectured from the charters of *Llewelyn ap Iorwerth* that he was one of the princes of Wales. A society of monks existed here previous to the year 1119, and the Cistercian rule was introduced by *Ranulph*, 2nd Earl of Chester, in 1131. The present ruins, which are an early form of E. E., corresponding to the latter half of the 12th cent., consist of portions of the abbey-ch., a refectory, abbot's buildings, barns, and grange. Only the S. transept of the ch. is standing (containing 3 upper lancet windows) and a small part of the outer wall of the S. aisle. A low circular-headed doorway leads from the S.W. corner of the transept to the refectory, and there is a 2nd circular doorway entering into what were the cloisters from the S. aisle: 2 circular-headed arches also lead from the refectory into a parlour. The nave, of which only one pier and half an arch remain, was about 80 ft. long by 25 wide, and the length of the transept 20 ft. by 17. Above the refectory was the dormitory, in the S. portion of which 3 broad-splayed lancet windows still remain. W. of the refectory is an E. E. building with 7 lancet windows, thought by Pennant

to have been a chapel of Knights Templars, but more probably a gwesten-hall. A celebrated oak, called the Abbot's Oak, flourished here, which was subsequently removed to the grounds of *Talacre*. *Basingwerk Abbey* was dissolved in 1535, when the revenues amounted to 150*l.* 7*s.* 3*d.*, but it was temporarily revived in the reign of Mary, "being converted into a nest of lubberly monks" (*Drayton*); and even as late as 1647 was used by the Roman Catholics as a place of interment. The corpse of a member of the *Petre* family was brought here all the way from *Essex*, no doubt on account of the sanctity which accrues to the abbey from its proximity to the blessed well of *St. Winifred*. *Basingwerk* came into the possession of the *Mostyn* family by the marriage of *Ann*, only daughter of *Henry ap Harry* of the tribe of *Edowain*, with *W. Mostyn* of *Talacre* in the 16th cent. Along the E. side of the ravine, down which the brook rushes, may be occasionally traced *Watt's Dyke*, which had its N. termination at the sea-coast in this neighbourhood. From hence it ran southward through *Northop*, *Mold*, &c., to *Wynnstay* (Rte. 1). The view from the wood-crowned eminence on which the abbey is placed is extensive and beautiful, though greatly marred by the results of commercial enterprise all round. The presumed sanctity of the brook has been very little revered by the owners of the foundries, copper-works, and factories, who have only seen in it an uncommonly good supply of water for motive power. A succession of ugly works and squalid cottages border the steep road to *Holywell* (*Inns*: *White Horse*, *King's Head*), a straggling though rather well-built town, and the most important in *Flintshire*. From its being the centre of an immensely valuable mineral district, large numbers of manufacturing establishments have been set up for smelting lead and copper,

making shot, &c., though the trade of the town does not appear to be in as prosperous a condition as it probably was at the time of their erection. The first copper-mill was started by a company from Warrington in 1766, soon after which the Holywell Level mining concern was commenced, and speedily produced large quantities of lead and silver ore. The principal attraction in the town is the celebrated well of *St. Winifred*, situated immediately below the ch., which, apart from the legendary and superstitious lore attached to it, is a really singular phenomenon on account of the enormous quantity of water supplied by it. Its peculiarities are that it never freezes, although intensely cold, and scarcely ever varies in the supply of water, the only difference after wet weather being a considerable discoloration. It bubbles out of the rock with such rapidity, that the basin, which will contain 200 tuns of water, was, when emptied, refilled in 2 minutes, proving that there is a continual supply at the rate of 100 tuns a minute. The sweet-scented moss, or *Jungernannia asplenioides*, grows on the sides of the well, and the stones were coated with a vegetable production called by Linnaeus, *Byssus iolithus*. The chapel over the well is an exquisite specimen of late Perp. work, and was erected by Margaret Countess of Richmond and mother of Henry VII. The groined arches which rise from the polygonal sides of the well are particularly rich and graceful, and are adorned with figures and escutcheons of the Stanley family, Catherine of Arragon, and others. In the building are two of these baths, both of which are for public use at certain times and under certain regulations. The chapel above contains a nave, N. aisle, an apsidal chancel, and some good Perp. windows. It is now used as a Sunday-school and lecture-room. The following is the legend of the Holy well. A beautiful virgin lived

in the 7th cent., by name Winifred, the daughter of Thewith a nobleman, and niece to St. Beuno, the same saint who founded the ch. of Clynnog in Caernarvonshire (Rte. 15), and who obtained leave to found a ch. on the estate of Thewith. Now Winifred entered the service of this ch. under the special protection of her saintly uncle, and while proceeding one morning to fulfil her duties she unfortunately attracted the attention of Caradoc, the son of King Alen, who endeavoured, but unsuccessfully, to obtain her consent to his suit. Enraged at his failure, the ungallant prince raised his spear and decapitated Winifred, whose head, rolling down the hill, stopped at the altar where the congregation were kneeling. Immediately a rapid fountain gushed up: and now were seen the advantages of having a saint for an uncle; for, snatching up the head, he at once united it to the body, the place of separation being merely marked by a white circle round the neck. As for Caradoc, he was stricken with death on the spot, and it is even hinted that the earth opened and swallowed up his impious body.

Winifred survived for more than 15 years afterwards, and, having received the veil from St. Elerius, became abbess of the monastery of Gwytherin (p. 48), where she died in the odour of sanctity. Her bones were afterwards translated in the reign of Stephen to the abbey-ch. of Shrewsbury. The colouring matter on the stones was attributed to the tincture of her blood, which gave to the well several other miraculous properties. One of them, as Drayton informs us in his *Polyolbion*, was, that an animal when thrown in was unable to be drowned—

“And of her holy life the innocence to shewe,
Whatever living thing into this well you
throwe,
Shee strongly beares it up, not suffering it
to shinke.”

The well belongs to the crown, being expressly excepted by name out of a grant of certain crown property, temp. James I.

Large numbers of pilgrims have from the earliest times flocked to the holy well: amongst them are names of royal blood, as William the Conqueror, Henry II., Edward I., James II. (in hopes of obtaining the son who was soon afterwards born), and in more modern days the King of the Belgians and Cardinal Wiseman. It is probably the only place in Britain where ex-voto offerings—the crutch that bore the tottering patient to the healing water, or the barrow on which he was wheeled—will be seen suspended on the wall, as is not unfrequently seen on the Continent.

The tower of the ch. rises directly above the chapel of the well. It does not contain much of interest, save a headless effigy of St. Winifred just behind the door. It is situated so low, as regards the rest of the town, that the bell at the time of service could not well be heard; to remedy which defect, a man, called the “walking belfry,” was wont to put on a leathern strap, at the end of which dangled a big bell: as he walked, the bell struck against his knee, cushioned for the purpose. This singular custom is now done away with. A new E. E. ch. has been erected at Bagillt for the accommodation of the people employed in the works.

The seats in the vicinity of Holywell are *Saithelwyd Hall* (Capt. Mostyn), *Coedmawr* (A. Eyton, Esq.), *Kinsale* (J. P. Eyton, Esq.), and near the stat. *Greenfield Hall* (W. Keates, Esq.).

Distances.—Flint, $5\frac{1}{2}$ m.; Northop, $6\frac{1}{2}$; Caerwys, 5; St. Asaph, 10; Downing, $3\frac{1}{2}$; Mold, 10.

A very large wheel, which may be observed by the railway side between Holywell and Mostyn, belongs to the smelting works of Messrs. Eyton, where large quantities of silver are annually refined from lead-ores.

20 m. *Mostyn Stat.* (*Inn*, Mostyn Arms). Near it is *Mostyn Hall*, the residence of Lord Mostyn. This Elizabethan mansion, which was formerly called Tremostyn, and partly dates from the time of Henry VI., is approached by a fine old gateway and avenue of trees. The interior has been much modernized, though still containing an ancient hall, and room hung with tapestry. There are some family portraits of the Mostyns: a Charles I. by *Vandyck* (?), and Sir Roger Mostyn and his lady by *Mytens*. While Henry of Richmond was lurking from place to place through the principality, rousing the Welsh to take up arms in his favour, as grandson of their countryman Owen Tudor, he was nearly surprised at Mostyn Hall by a party of soldiers of Richard III. The room out of which he escaped by leaping from the back window, and the place of the hole through which he passed, are still pointed out; but new masonry supersedes the old, and the legend is attached to it. Here is preserved a curious pedigree-roll of the family, and a remarkable golden *torque*. Many of these Druidical ornaments have been found in Wales and Ireland, and a good collection of them may be seen in the British Museum. It is of early date. It is seen as an ornament on the Persepolitan sculptures, and in the Pompeian mosaic on the necks of Darius and his nobles at Arbela. It was familiar to the Romans, who took several from the Gauls as early as B.C. 196. Aneurin enumerates 363 torque-wearing chiefs at the Cattraeth. Dr. Pugh says the expression “Ty-nu-torc,” “to draw a torque,” is equivalent in old Welsh to “contend for the mastery.” (See Birch, ‘Arch. Journ.’)

[2 m. S. of Mostyn is *Downing*, the seat of the Earl of Denbigh, but better known as the former residence of Pennant the antiquary and traveller, whose granddaughter married the

present possessor. As the author of the 'Tour in Wales,' his name should be held in reverence by every tourist for so ably leading the way in the days when travelling was both difficult and dangerous. The house was built in 1627, and bears on the front a Welsh inscription signifying, "Without God there is nothing, with God enough." Here is a fine collection, known as the Penmant collection, of manuscripts, books, and paintings, besides bronzes, celts, &c., and within the grounds is a stone inscribed as follows:—

IIIC IACIT MVLI
ER HONA NOBILI.

From hence the tourist may walk to Holywell 3 m., passing *Pantasa*, where a Roman Catholic ch. and convent has been built at the expense of Lord Denbigh. A new ch. has also been erected by public subscription at *Yr Orsedd*, where there are 2 sepulchral tumuli.

Instead of proceeding to Holywell, the tourist may proceed by *Whitford* to the *Garreg Mountain* (3 m. from Mostyn), on the summit of which is a curious building, stated by some to have been a Roman Pharos, to conduct sailors to and from *Dëva*, along the channel leading to the *Sebreia Portus*. From its style, however, it cannot be earlier than the 16th cent.

In a field on the N.W. side of this eminence is the *Maen Achwyfan*, or Stone of Lamentation, a cross covered with the usual ornamentation assigned to a period extending from the 9th to the 12th cent. From hence a British (?) roadway, called the *Sarn Hwlein*, runs due W. for about a mile, until it intersects *Offa's Dyke*.]

A considerable amount of coasting trade is carried on at *Mostyn Quay*, there being several collieries in the vicinity. A steamer plies to Liverpool. As the rly. trends round to the N.W. the tourist gains views on the

rt. across the estuary of *Hillbre Island*, on which there is a telegraph stat. The *Point of Air* lighthouse is an iron building standing on 9 pillars, showing at night a white light.

24 m. l. *Talacre*, the modern seat of Sir Piers Mostyn, Bart., close to which are the valuable freestone quarries of *Gaespyr*, which supplied the stone for building the Liverpool Custom-house.

[About $1\frac{1}{2}$ S. is the ch. of *Llanasa*, the painted windows of which are said to have formerly belonged to the Abbey of Basingwerk. The Rev. H. Parry, the intimate friend of Penmant, was vicar of the parish. Near the ch. is *Gyrra*, the castellated residence of E. Bates, Esq.]

26 m. *Prestatyn* Stat., from which place the tourist can, if more convenient, visit *Garreg Mount* and *Downing*, rejoining the rly. at Holywell.

[3 m. l. in the ch. yard of *Newmarket* is a richly ornamented cross of the 14th cent. There is also the remarkable tumulus of *Cop 'ar 'leni*, called locally the *Gop*, which has the reputation of being the largest but one in Great Britain, covering more than an acre of ground. It is said to have been erected by the conquerors of the Ordovices, and also to have had the honour of serving as a mausoleum for Queen *Boudicca*. A local tradition states that it was made for the purpose of covering the ashes of those who fell in the engagement between the latter and *Paulinus*. At *Henfrya* British circles and earthworks are visible.

In the neighbourhood of *Newmarket* is *Golden Grove*, the seat of Col. Morgan.

$2\frac{1}{2}$ m. from *Prestatyn* (and equidistant from *Newmarket* and *Rhuddlan*, Rte. 11) are the remains of the early Norm. Castle of *Dyscrth*, magnificently situated on a lofty scarp

rock, but too much decayed to show what were the arrangements of the fortress. The defences on the E. side are the strongest, from there having been a deep fosse cut in the solid rock. It does not appear to have had much history attached to it, except that it was fortified by Henry III. in 1241, and destroyed soon afterwards by the Welsh under Llewelyn. Dyserth Ch., a burial-place of the Conways in the 17th cent., contains part of a Jesse window at the E. end, and also a mutilated cross said to have been erected in memory of Einon, son of Ririd Vlaidd, shot by an arrow at the time of the destruction of the castle. Just below the castle rock is an ivy-covered oblong building, with 2 arms or transepts, called by the not uncommon name of *Siambr Wen*, or the White Chamber, the character of which is obscure. Some have set it down as a religious edifice, others as the house of Sir Robert Ponderling, the constable of the castle; while the Rev. H. L. Jones considers it with more probability to have been built over a holy well which is known to have existed here. The counties of Flint and Denbigh are celebrated for the number and efficacy of their sainted wells. *Ffynnon Asaph*, or the well of St. Asaph, is 1 m. distant and supplies a brook on which there is an extremely pretty cascade. The well ranks next to that of Holywell in its volume of water, throwing up no less than 7 tun every minute. It is enclosed with stone in a rectangular form, and, according to Pennant, had formerly its votaries like that of St. Winifred." The visitor will find it more convenient for him to make his way back from Dyserth to Rhyl, passing $3\frac{1}{2}$ m. *Tulargoch*, a noted lead-mine, which has yielded more ore than any other in Flintshire.]

30 m. *Rhyl* (*Hotels*: Parade, excellent; Queen's, Belvoir, both good;

Royal, tolerable: Mostyn Arms). 30 years ago a fishing village, has risen to the rank of a watering-place, whither large numbers of visitors, principally from Liverpool, annually resort, together with crowds of excursionists panting for a breath of sea-air. Considering the barren and unattractive situation in which it has arisen, its builders have done wonders, though nothing can compensate for the flat and monotonous marsh-land in its immediate neighbourhood. Rhyl, however, has its advantages in its pure air and firm sands, and, last but not least, the moderate charges of its lodgings when compared with those of its neighbours. It, of course, has no features of antiquity to present beyond the billows of the sea, which comes tumbling in over the wide, flat beach in front of its lines of small houses; but for an invalid, to whom the breath of the salt water is as the breath of life, and the comfort of communication by rail with the outer world, a great object, Rhyl may be an excellent resting-place, and many have found it so. In clear weather the views from the beach are very fine, embracing the Great and Little Orme's Head, Penmaen Mawr, and Snowdon in the far distance. The town stands at the mouth of the Clwyd, which, after running for a few miles through an alluvial district, expands into a small estuary. A large tract of ground between it and the sea, originally a marsh, is protected from the tides by an embankment nearly 8 m. long, and 80 ft. wide at the base. The land is now very valuable. The Vale of Clwyd Rly. from Denbigh runs in here (Rte. 11). *Ty-yn-Rhyl*, the residence of Miss Lloyd, is of the 16th cent., and was for long the only house in the place. There is some carved woodwork in the hall made out of the bedstead of Griffith, the gentleman usher to Catherine of Aragon.

Conveyances.—Steamers to Liverpool, 24 m.; rail to Rhuddlan, 3;

Denbigh, Ruthin, and St. Asaph, 6; Conway, 15; Chester, 30; Abergele, 4½.

Crossing the estuary of the Voryd by a swing-bridge, the rly. still hugs the coast, which is gradually approached by a fresh chain of hills, the outliers of that range of mountains which lies between the Clwyd, Conway, and the upper basin of the Dee, and which is intersected by the Elwy, Alwen, and Aled rivers. 3 m. l. are *Kimmel Park* (H. R. Hughes, Esq.), and the beautiful spire of the new ch. at Bodelwyddan (Rte. 11).

34¼ m. *Abergele* Stat. (Rte. 5), distant from the little town of the same name nearly 1 m. (*Hotel*: Bee, good.) As a watering-place many persons prefer it to Rhyl, from its greater seclusion and the beautiful scenery in the neighbourhood, in which the carboniferous limestone is finely developed. Tradition, backed up by an inscription on a tombstone, points to the fact that the mainland once extended much further N. than it does now, and is borne out by the traces of a submerged forest visible at low water. On the summit of the hills 1 m. to the S.W. are the British camp and outpost of *Castell Cawr* and *Gorddyn Mawr*, while the hill of *Cefn Ogo* is remarkable for a very fine cavern abounding in the stalactites usually found in this formation. In the vicinity of Abergele are *Pentremawr* (Mrs. Jones Bateman); and 11 m. l. of rly. *Gwrych Castle*, the imposing mansion of R. Bamford Hesketh, Esq. It has an extensive castellated front, and, although ingeniously calculated to deceive the spectator as to its size and capabilities, harmonizes well with the rocky scenery around. The beautiful grounds which surround the house abound with cypresses, with which a party of Turks from Liverpool were so pleased that they vociferated "Stamboul, Stamboul!"

36½ m. rt. is the pretty village of

Llandulas, the spot where Richard II., riding beside the wily Northumberland, was startled by the sight of armed horsemen among the trees, and first learned that his treacherous companion had lured him from Conway to deliver him to Bolingbroke. The king spurred his horse to escape, but Percy, assuming the gaoler, seized the bridle, telling him it was only a guard of honour.

Bryndulas is the residence of J. B. Hesketh, Esq. From *Lysfaen Hill* there is a magnificent view of the mountains in the neighbourhood of Conway. The summit of the hill was marked by a semaphore signal, it being an intermediate station in the Holyhead and Liverpool telegraphic line. The stations on each side with which it communicated were Prestatyn Hill and the Orme's Head. All the stations are now disused, having given place to the electric wires, which are carried for the whole distance along the high roads, and by this means the earliest intelligence is transmitted to Liverpool of the passing of any vessel at Holyhead.

The long tunnel of *Penmaen Rhos*, 1629 ft., leads to *Colwyn*, a pleasant and unpresuming little bathing-place, 40½ m. [2 m. l., in the parish of *Llanellian*, is the once famous *Ffynnon*, or cursing-well of Eliau. "Persons who have any great malice against others, and wish to injure them, frequently resort to the minister of the well, who, for a sum of money, undertakes to offer them in it. Various ceremonies are gone through on the occasion; amongst others, the name of the devoted is registered in a book, and then a pin in his name, and a pebble with his initials inscribed thereon, are thrown into the well."—*Arch. Cambr.*]

A most interesting chapter in the history of human superstition might

be written on the necromancy of wells. The Witch of Endor was a well witch, as appears by the etymology of the name. (See Stanley's *Palestine*.)

41 m. l. *Pwlycrochan*. *Hotel*: late the residence of the Dowager Lady Erskine. The rly. temporarily leaves the shore, which it has been hugging for so many miles, and cuts across the base of the singular rock-promontory of *Creuddyn*, soon arriving in sight of the graceful ruins of

CONWAY, 45 m. (Rte. 12). (*Hotels*: Castle; Erskine Arms, indifferent.) JUNCTION with the Llandudno and Llanrwst lines. This unique Welsh town occupies a striking position on the l. bank of "Old Conway's foaming flood," as Gray, with a poet's licence, has described the muddy tidal waters which here empty themselves into the sea. These muddy waters, nevertheless, were celebrated even in the Roman period for their pearls, which for long proved a source of great profit to those engaged in the fishery—

"Whose precious orient pearly, that breedeth
in the sands,
Above the other floods of Britain doth her
grace."

Drayton's Polyolbion.

Tacitus, speaking of Britain, says "Gignit et oceanus margarita sed suffusca et liventia;" still, he adds, that avarice never fails, "Ego facilius crediderim naturam Margaritis deesse quam nobis Avaritiam."—*Vit. Agric.*

Spenser also mentions the pearls:

"And Conway, which from out his stream
doth send
Plenty of pearles to deck his dames
withal."

They are still found in the Conway, and ornaments made of them may be procured with some pains and patience. They, however, proved ill coloured, and of small value. The pearls are produced by a species

of mussel, called *Mya margaretfifera*. The river, which at high tide is more than $\frac{1}{2}$ a mile in breadth, is crossed by two bridges, both in their different ways fine works of art, and a striking improvement on the state of things 60 years ago, when the only communication on this Irish highway was by means of a ferry-boat. Frequent accidents happened then, and on Christmas-Day, 1806, the boat upset with the mail on board, when all the passengers but 2 were drowned. The *Suspension Bridge* was erected by Telford, in 1826, to complete the undertaking of the Holyhead road, a truly national work, which even the rly. will never entirely throw into the shade. The entrances on either side are between 2 towers, built to harmonize with the general style of the castle, the distance of the roadway between them being 327 ft. This consists of layers of planks fixed by vertical bars to suspending chains, which are secured at each end respectively into the cliff below the castle, and a rock which formerly was insulated, but is now connected with the mainland by an embankment 2000 ft. long.

The graceful appearance of this bridge is greatly marred by the close proximity of its younger and more sturdy brother the *Tubular Bridge*, which, however interesting as a work of science, is nevertheless an intrusion into the rest of the scene. Though called a bridge, it is in reality a rectangular tunnel, or tube, "in the construction of which Stephenson's scientific knowledge is specially displayed; the iron-work above the tube consists of 8 square cells, and has to resist compression; that below the tube consists of 6 cells, and has to resist tension; and that at the sides has to secure the combined action of the top and bottom. The Conway end of the tube is immovable, but the Chester end is free, so that it may expand by heat and contract by cold, as the tube rests on

cast-iron rollers, which give play so as to allow 12 in. of motion. The whole mass weighs 1140 tons." The length of the tube is 400 ft. On emerging from the tube the rly. runs close to the *Castle Walls* on the rt., so close indeed that one of the towers apparently overhangs the train as it glides underneath. The town-walls are entered through a pointed arch, erected as nearly as possible to harmonize with the others. Though Conway walls do not furnish a promenade like those of Chester, yet, in some respects, it is even a more peculiar town, on account of its freedom from suburbs and outskirts. Every part of it is intramural, and a large amount of space in the interior is devoted to gardens, which present when viewed from the castle-towers a singular coup-d'œil. This is, perhaps, the reason why the term "ragged town" has so often been applied to it. The walls, which are contemporaneous with the castle, are of great thickness, embattled, strengthened at intervals by 21 towers, and entered by 3 principal gateways with 2 strong towers. The general shape is triangular, the base line being occupied by the *Castle*, one of the most elegant of all Welsh fortresses. It was erected by Edward I. in 1281, nearly about the same time and for the same purposes as he built Caernarvon and Beaumaris, viz. for securing his newly obtained possession of Wales. While Conway served as a place of defence, it also had the somewhat perilous honour of being the royal residence, as on one occasion, while the King was holding his festivities, the Welsh descended from the hills in great numbers, and so hard pressed the garrison that famine had almost caused them to surrender. It was from Conway that the unfortunate Richard II. commenced his fatal journey to meet Bolingbroke, which ended in his imprisonment within the walls of Flint. We next hear of the castle

being garrisoned for the king during the civil wars by the warlike Archbishop Williams, who, however, on being superseded by Prince Rupert, went over to the enemy, and assisted General Mytton in his attack on the city in 1646. Finally, it came to an ignominious destruction in the reign of Charles II., who made a grant to the Earl of Conway, a profligate and avaricious nobleman, who, with a rapacity only equalled by Bishop Barlow at St. David's, stripped the building of all the timber and lead, to convert them to his own use.

The creative fancy of a painter could scarcely conceive a more picturesque object of its class than Conway Castle. The graceful forms of its towers and turrets, their varied groupings as seen from different points, the partial and softening progress of decay, the draping ivy filling up the breaches and breaks in the walls, and the noble situation, are charms that make Conway equal to any castle on the Rhine, Moselle, or Danube. In plan it is nearly a parallelogram, with 8 drum towers 40 ft. in diameter, 4 at the angles, and 4 intermediate on the N. and S. sides, rising nearly from the edge of the precipice, and connected with lofty curtains. In advance of the E. and W. ends are raised platforms each having 3 low bastion or bartizan towers. From the rt. on the N. side is a sallyport to which access was gained by means of a river-path winding up the rock; while in the same position on the W. is the main gate, approaching over a steep draw-bridge, and through a covered entrance with flanking turrets. The interior is unequally divided by a cross wall, which forms a sort of inner court marked by 4 of the round towers, each of which has a lofty stair turret. The principal feature in the interior is the hall of Llewelyn on the S. side, 130 ft. long. It is now roofless, but was once ribbed with 8 stone ribs, of which 4 remain, and

furnished with 3 fireplaces, as though intended to be converted by tapestry into several chambers. It is also lighted by 9 E. E. windows. The vaults underneath were magazines for stores. It appears from old documents that this hall was built on account of the original one being too small. The 2 eastern towers are called the King's and Queen's; and in the latter, which is the most northerly, is an oratory, a beautiful little recess in the thickness of the wall, with a polygon E. end, groined. It contains 7 bays, and some trefoil panels as sedilia. In the lower chamber are some curious fragments of Dec. tracing. Under the King's Tower is a vault, which was accessible only through a trap-door in the floor above. On the S. side is the keep, and a tower called *Twrddarn* or the Broken Tower, the base of which has been at one time completely excavated by the irreverent inhabitants of the town, and now presents a dangerous-looking chasm almost overhanging the rly. This castle was designed by Henry de Elreton, the architect of Caernarvon, and it is said that the workmen employed on the building were all sent from Rutlandshire, which from the excellence of its stone produced the best masons in England. It now belongs to the Dowager Lady Erskine, who holds it from the Crown at the rent of 6s. 8d., and a dish of fish to the Queen whenever she passes this way.

Although the hand of modern improvement has been frequently at work, Conway still presents some ancient buildings and picturesque bits of street scenery. *Plas Mawr*, founded by Robert Wynne of Gwydir, temp. 1585, is a good example of a domestic building of the 16th cent., though somewhat heavy in its details. The interior of the house, which is let out to small families, is ornamented with panelling and heraldic coats of arms, in which the initials

of Queen Elizabeth and the Earl of Leicester are visible.

The *College*, another house of earlier date in Castle Street, contains a curious window and armorial bearings of the Stanley family.

The *Church*, which was preceded by a Cistercian Abbey long since destroyed, has a Dec. tower with Perp. additions, and a Dec. though modernized nave with a niche in the S. side of peculiar beauty. The chancel is E. Dec., with a Perp. E. window. It contains an altar-tomb to Robert Wynne, 1664; a slab to John Brickdale, vicar in 1601, whose ancestor, Thomas Brickdale, was the first governor of the castle in 1292; a good screen said to have been brought from *Maenant Abbey* near Llanrwst (Rte. 12); some incised monumental stones; and a slab in memory of Nicholas Hookes, the father of 27 children, he himself being the 41st child of his father.

From the beauty of the scenery in the neighbourhood, and the many objects of interest, Conway and Llandudno are good places for temporary head-quarters, from which the promontory of Creuddyn, the bluff precipices of Penmaen Mawr, or the softer beauties of the vale of the Conway may be explored at leisure. Many nice residences are scattered about: *Bodlondeb* (R. Davies, Esq.); *Bryn Eisteddfodd* (Ven. Archdeacon Jones); *Pabo* (Mrs. Rees); *Bodnod* (W. Hammer, Esq.).

Conveyances.—To Llandudno (4 m.) by rail and omnibus daily; by rail to Llanrwst (12 m.), and Bettws-y-coed (16 m.).

Distances.—Chester, 45 m.; Bangor, 15; Rhyl, 15; Llandudno, 4; Aber, 9; Caerhun, 4½; Penmaen Mawr, 4½; Porthllwyd Waterfall, 6.

[Nearly 2 m. from Conway, on the summit of the Conway Mount, an outspur of Penmaen Bach, are traces

of the fortified British town of *Castell Caer Seion*, the citadel of which is defended by a wall of loose stones. Inside are some circular houses or "cyttiau." As a military post no position could be better, as from its lofty situation it commands views of the other fortified posts in the country—as on *Penmaenmawr*, *Llandudno*, *Pencae Helen* near Caerhun, *Bwrdd Arthur* near Beaumaris, and Holyhead.

The visitor may extend his walk to the outpost of Dinas, and then proceed to Conway by the lovely and romantic glen of Sychnant, "the Dry Hollow," in which there is a remarkable echo near the top.]

The rly. leaves Conway by a tunnel of 112 yards, under one of the towers of the town wall, emerging upon the marsh, and passing through a 2nd tunnel of 630 yards, underneath the promontory of Penmaen Bach. On l. is *Pendyffryn* (S. Darbishire, Esq.), and the small ch. of *Dwygyfylchi*, a pleasant little village (*Inn*: Victoria), offering fair accommodation to sea-side visitors who wish for quiet.

49 $\frac{3}{4}$ m. *Penmaenmawr* Stat. (*Hotel*: Wyatt's), nearly at the foot of the massive hill of the same name (1545 ft.), which stands boldly out into the sea, as though further progress were impossible. But the genius of Telford and Stephenson, who had no such word in their vocabulary, has succeeded in crossing the rugged heights by a turnpike and rail road second to none in the world. A narrow zigzag path was the only alternative for the traveller until 1772, when an engineer named Sylvester first undertook to form a road which was subsequently reconstructed by Telford in 1827. The crossing of Penmaenmawr was an ugly bugbear in former journeyings between Chester and Ireland, and many formidable accidents at different times happened from the falling of masses of rock blocking

up the road. Mention is made of this passage in the 'Clarendon Papers.' Dr. Johnson, on his way to Bangor with the Thrales, flatly declares that they would have stopped at Conway, were it not the race-week, and the inns full, rather than cross after daylight. Dean Swift, who, doubtless, was familiar with the road during his many journeys to Dublin, is said to have been the writer of some doggerel lines which existed on a signboard on a public-house on one side of the mountain, to this effect:—

"Before you venture hence to pass
Take a good refreshing glass;"

while on the corresponding hostelry on the other side it ran—

"Now you're over take another,
Your frighten'd spirits to recover."

The rly. winds partly round the base of the mountain and partly through a tunnel, the remainder of its course being protected by an enormously strong sea-wall, which, however, in severe storms, has not always sufficed to preserve the line from inundation and damage. The ride from Rhyl to Aber in rough weather is often exciting, particularly near Colwyn, and while rounding this point. Penmaenmawr may be considered as one of the outworks of the mountainous district of Snowdonia, an uninterrupted and very wild chain of hills extending from hence right across to Capel Curig.

[The antiquary will find on the summit many early remains—as the British post of *Braich-y-dinas*, in which circuits of loose stone walls may be traced about 12 ft. thick, without any attempt at masonry. There are also circular cells or cyttiau, which may probably have served as residences for the garrison of this (at that time) impregnable position. On a plateau near the eminence of *Moelfre*, a little to the S., are *carneddau*, *meini-heirion*, and circles, proving the importance in

which these coast-heights were held both in military and religious estimation. The pedestrian had better make directly for the shoulder of Penmaenmawr. Still more S. a road runs between Aber and Caerhun (Conovium), through the solitary pass of *Bwlch-y-ddeufaen*, which was once a Roman road, and very probably a British trackway in still earlier times.]

By this pass it is probable that the Roman army, commanded by Agricola, appeared before the island of Anglesea. He had no ships, Tacitus tells us, but was led by native auxiliaries who knew the fords and were practised swimmers. He suddenly terrified the unfortunate Britons by his presence, who were looking for him by sea. “*Qui classem, qui naves, qui mare expectabant.*”—*Vit. Agric.*

Immediately after rounding the point the traveller gains lovely views of the coast of Anglesea, Puffin Island, and Beaumaris, which is no great distance across. On l. is the pretty village of *Llanfairfechan*. 5½ m. Aber Stat. For beauty of situation the village of Aber (*Imm*: Bulkeley Arms) can hardly be surpassed. It is placed at the foot of a grand amphitheatre of mountains, whose dark and frowning clefts beckon the pedestrian to explore their recesses. On account of the scenery and seclusion, many villas and residences have been built, although Aber does not aspire to the dignity of a watering-place. The river on which the village stands is formed by 2 or 3 small streams, the main one rising in *Llyn-ar-afon*, a little tarn at the foot of the steep precipices of Y-Moel-fras.

On the Aber-fawr (about 2½ m. from Aber) is one of the most romantic waterfalls in N. Wales, dashing over the rocks of *Maes-y-gaer* at a height of 70 ft. “This fall has not without reason been compared to the Staubbach in the valley of Lauter-

brunnen.”—*Roscoe*. *Saxifraga stellaris* grows at the foot of the fall. “About ¼ m. to the rt. is another fall, of very inferior volume, but of a greater height, and worth a visit were it merely to note the extremely graceful manner in which the water in some places glides over the fretted rocks, giving the appearance of fine lace. The upper part of this fall appears to form a kind of curved direction over the worn rocks.”—*Halliwell*. The lofty mountains in the background are *Carnedd Dafydd* and *Carnedd Llewelyn*, which are sometimes ascended from here. It is however a long and fatiguing pull, and the easiest ascents may be made from the Conway Valley, near Llanrwst (Rte. 12), or from near Llyn-Ogwen. On the opposite side of the river, a little above the village, is a tumulus where once stood a watch-tower called *Llewelyn's Kitchen*, and near it is *Penybryn*, an old house of Henry VIII.'s time. The castle of Aber, built by Llewelyn ap Iorwerth, was the scene of a tragical tale much dwelt upon by Welsh historians. In the reign of Henry III. Llewelyn took prisoner one William de Breos, a powerful baron of handsome parts and presence, whom he confined in the castle of Aber. He made the unpleasant discovery that his wife, the Princess Joan (who was also daughter of John King of England), commiserating the prisoner's condition, and fascinated by his conversation, had contracted a clandestine intimacy with him. De Breos, being soon after liberated by ransom, was invited to Aber under the guise of friendship, and there treacherously hung upon a gallows erected below the castle. To complete his revenge, it is recorded that Llewelyn took the princess to a window and showed her the lifeless body of her lover. He previously asked her what she would give for a sight of him, to which she made answer in a Welsh distich—

"Wales and England, and Llewelyn,
I'd freely give to see my William."

This princess Joan was, on her death 8 years afterwards, buried at Llanfues Priory, near Beaumaris (Rte. 8).

Between this latter town and Aber are the *Lavan Sands* or Sands of Lamentation, which at low water may be traversed, affording a direct passage to the opposite coast of Anglesea. Nevertheless, on no account should any traveller attempt to cross without a guide, as, owing to the shifting of the sands, many fatal accidents have occurred. To direct passengers in foggy weather a large bell is rung at Aber, presented for that purpose by Lord Bulkeley.

From hence the rly. takes a course rather inland, and the tourist soon gains a fine view of the noble woods and towers of *Penrhyn Castle* (Colonel the Hon. Douglas Pennant, M.P.) (Rte. 3). At 58 m. the Ogwen river is crossed on a lofty viaduct, leaving the village of *Llandegai* on rt., soon after which, by a succession of cuttings and tunnels, the traveller reaches Bangor, 60 m. (Rte. 7.)

tempting pedestrian tour may be taken into the upper portion of the romantic valley of the *Elwy* through the village of *Bettws Abergele*, $4\frac{1}{2}$ m. Near it is *Coed Coch*, the seat of J. Wynne, Esq. 1 m. beyond, the roads diverge, the one to the rt. descending the hills on the l. bank of the Elwy, until *Llangerniw* is reached (about 11 m., from whence the bridle-road to Llanrwst (Rte. 12) may be followed up the dingle of the *Afon-dyffryn-gallt*. The distance from Abergele to Llanrwst by this cross-country route is 17 m. 5 m. S. of Llangerniw is the secluded little village of *Gwytherin*, at the foot of the lonely *Hiraethrog Hills*. Here stood the nunnery of which the holy St. Winitred of Holywell (p. 38) was the head until her death, and from hence her relics were removed to the abbey-ch. of Shrewsbury. Within the ch., which was originally built in conjunction with the nunnery, are 2 rude wooden chests, enclosing a portion of St. Winitred's coffin. In the ch. yard are 4 upright stones, one of them inscribed as follows:—

VINNEMAGLI FILII
SENNEMAGLI.

ROUTE 5.

ABERGELE TO DENBIGH, BY BETTWS
AND LLANFAIR TALHAIARN. — PE-
DESTRIAN EXCURSION UP THE
RIVERS ALED AND ELWY.

By those who are fond of penetrating into untrodden districts with sketch-book or fishing-rod, a very

By a second route the pedestrian can proceed from Bettws to *Llanfair Talhaiarn*, 7 m. (*Im*, Harp), a village beautifully situated on the rt. bank of the Elwy, opposite the wooded park of *Gartherin* (B. W. Wynne, Esq.), and may from thence explore the Elwy downwards to St. Asaph, or across the hills to *Llansamnan* (*Im*: Saracen's Head) on the banks of the *Aled*, a tributary which joins the Elwy at *Pontygwiddel*, 2 m. below Llanfair. In the neighbourhood are *Dyffryn Aled*, the seat of P. W. Yorke, Esq., and *Bwrdd Arthur*, or Arthur's Round Table, a British amphitheatre mentioned by Ieland:—"There is in the parish of Llansamnan, in the side of a strong hill, a place where

there be 24 holes, or places, in a roundel for men to sit in, but som lesse and som bigge, cutte out of the mayn rocke by manne's hand; and ther children and young men cumming to seeke their cattelle used to sitte and play." The *Aled* is even more romantic than the Elwy. In the upper part of its course it runs through a narrow dingle, in which there are 2 very picturesque waterfalls, *Llyn-yr-Ogo* and *Rhaiadr Mawr*, about 5 m. from Llansannan. The former is the smallest, but of most peculiar character, "being completely shaded by trees, the river falling into a dark cylindrical basin at the bottom of a finely-wooded dell." From the latter village to *Denbigh* (Rte. 11) it is about 9 m. These excursions should not be undertaken without an Ordnance map, as the roads are bad and intricate and the accommodation is limited to an occasional "public."

ROUTE 6.

FROM CONWAY TO LLANDUDNO AND THE ORME'S HEAD.

[A branch line, the St. George's Harbour Railway, has been opened from Conway to Llandudno, which has proved a great source of convenience to passengers from a distance, though for short trips between the 2 towns many prefer going by road. The watering-place of *Llandudno* (*Hotels*: Adelphi, Queen's, St. [N. Wales.]

George's, all good) was only 20 years ago an insignificant village, known to and resorted to by a few families who were content to rough it for the sake of the delicious air. It has now become the Welsh Brighton, not only from the abundance, but the excellent quality of the accommodations offered to the visitor; and it possesses this superiority over other places of the sort, that it has not been added to at different times, but has all sprung up as parts of a definite architectural system. Its main features are a handsome crescent, following the sweep of the bay, with parallel streets running across from it to the Conway sands; the town thus possesses the unusual advantage of 2 bays, each with a different aspect, and allowing the enjoyment of bathing in almost any weather. The two drawbacks are the want of vegetation that characterises the scenery, and the very high (indeed we may say exorbitant) prices often demanded for lodgings; this latter defect will probably pass away as soon as the novelty of a new and fashionable watering-place has worn off.

Llandudno is sheltered from the N.W. and E. by the *Great and Little Orme's Head*, both of them, but especially the former, being enormous masses of limestone rock, rising precipitously from the sea for several hundred feet, and forming striking objects in the coast landscapes for miles around. A very pleasant walk 6 m. in length has been made round the Great Head, which contains in its rocky fastnesses several places of interest, as the Telegraph Station (750 ft.), from which there is a magnificent "birdseye view of Llandudno beneath, while the bright blue waters of the sea on either hand, the hills of Gloddaeth, the conical rock of Maelgwyn towering as it were in isolated prominence in the centre of the plain, the gables of Bodyscallen peeping through their ancestral trees,

the majestic ruins and bridges of Conway, combine to form a prospect of wondrous beauty, which, bounded by the undulating outlines of the mountains, is worth a pilgrimage to contemplate."—*Hicklin*. There are also copper-mines which have been worked for ages past, as traces of Roman workings have been discovered; a cromlech of 5 upright stones surmounted by another transversely; and the British fortress of *Pen-y-dinas* overlooking the town, and still preserving portions of wall and numerous circular houses; at one corner is a rocking-stone, known as Cryd Tudno, the cradle of Tudno. The secluded parish ch. of *St. Tudno* lay for many years in a neglected and ruinous state, but was thoroughly restored in simple taste by the liberality of H. Reece, Esq., of Birmingham, in 1855. As early as the 7th cent. it is supposed that St. Tudno founded on this spot an oratory on which the original ch. was erected in the 12th cent., and a subsequent Perp. chancel added. In the interior are an ancient circular font and 2 incised coffin-lids of the 13th cent. A short distance to the W. of the ch. are the remains of an avenue of upright stones, called by the Welsh "The high road of the deer."

The precipitous cliffs of the Great Orme's Head have obtained melancholy notoriety as having been the scene of the shipwreck of the *Hornby* in 1824, when all on board but one perished.

In the rocks at the extreme point of the headland is the cavern of *Ilech*, of difficult access from the summit. On the S.E. side is *Gogarth*, where the remains of a large building still exist, partly of early and partly of mediæval character, said to have been a palace of the Bishops of Bangor or a monastic institution subject to the Abbey of Conway. Leland mentions it in his Itinerary, but little is known of its history. The whole of the area extending

from hence to Puffin Island is the theatre of a legend similar to that of the Lowland Hundred in Cardigan Bay, viz., that a rich and fertile country lies underneath the sea, which suddenly engulfed it, a condition of things by no means improbable, though easily accounted for by well-known geological phenomena. The geologist will find on the Orme's Head many good casts of fossils. On the top of the head, N.W. of the copper-mine, is a bed of brachiopodous shells, *Producti*, *Spiriferæ*, &c. From thence "let the collector's walk be extended down the slope that, leaving the telegraph to the rt., leads to the sea, and let him notice the shale-bed about 6 ft. below, which is little else than a mass of delicate fossils, exquisitely preserved through chalcedonization, and comprising the rarest and most beautiful forms of corals and sponges, *Encrinites* of several species, but chiefly *Rhodoerinus*, *Brachiopodous* and *Lamelli-branchiate* shells, and many species of *Gasteropoda*."—*Roberts*.

The botanist will find plenty to occupy him in the uncommon plants that grow in the neighbourhood; as *Arabis hispida*, *Saponaria officinalis*, *Triglochin palustre*, *Chenopodium*, *Serratula tinctoria*, *Anacamptis pyramidalis*, *Medicago maculata*, *Coton-easter vulgaris* (rare), on the rocks "situated at some distance to the W. of the old mine above the road which passes the farm-house of Tyny-Cae."

Excursions may be made from Llandudno to the various objects of interest in the peninsula of Creuddyn to the N. of the Chester and Holyhead Railway.

The scanty remains of *Castle Digawry*, once called Castle Gannock, occupy an eminence just above the branch rly. It was formerly a British station of the Ordovices, subsequently to which period a castle of consider-

able importance was erected by Hugh Lupus, Earl of Chester, which, after undergoing considerable mutations during the stormy times of the 13th cent., was eventually demolished by Llewelyn in 1262. Previous to its destruction Henry III. was shut up here, and experienced within his garrison great distress, as appears from a letter extant: "We fast for want of meat, for a halfpennie loafe is worth 3*d.*; we starve for colde, wanting our winter garments, having no more than a thin linnen cloath betwixt us and the winde."—*Powell*. On a hill to the N.E. is a ruined tower, supposed by some to have been an outpost of Diganwy. In the valley beneath is the cruciform ch. of *Eglwys Rhos*, containing an oak roof and stained glass.

Maelgwyn Gwynedd, the first who fortified Diganwy, is said to have died of yellow fever in this ch. A.D. 566. Near it are *Bodyscallen* (Miss Mostyn), and *Gloddaeth*, the ancient Elizabethan seat of Lady Augusta Mostyn. It is charmingly situated on the slope of a well-wooded hill, and is a great attraction to the visitors from Llandudno, to whom access to the house and grounds is liberally allowed. In the entrance hall are some fine timber-work and carving.

The ch. of *Llandrillo-yn-Rhos* is a handsome double-aisled Perp. ch., with a tower remarkable for having double-stepped battlements. In the interior is a Norm. font. About $\frac{1}{2}$ m. distant is *Capel Trillo*, a rude little building, believed to be of immense antiquity, but according to the Rev. H. L. Jones not older than the 16th cent. *Llys Eurian*, to the S. of Llandrillo, marks the site of an ancient palace of Maelgwyn Gwynedd prior to his residence at Diganwy.

On *Puffin Island* are remains of a ch., said to be one of the oldest in Britain (p. 68).

During the summer months steamers from Liverpool, and occasionally

Caernarvon and Beaumaris, call off the landing-stage at Llandudno.

Distances.—Conway, 4 m.; Gloddaeth, 3; Llandrillo, 3; Colwyn Stat., 9.]

ROUTE 7.

FROM BANGOR TO HOLYHEAD, BY MENAI BRIDGE.

Bangor (from *Bân Chor*, the High Church) (*Hotels*: Penrhyn Arms, first-class; George, very good; Castle, comfortable; Albion; Liverpool Arms; British, near the station), though containing in itself but little of interest, has always commanded a large share of tourists' attention, arising from its beautiful and sheltered situation, its proximity to exquisite scenery, and the excellent accommodation afforded by its hotels and boarding-houses. Of these the *Penrhyn Arms* is the most complete of the many good houses of call with which N. Wales abounds. It was built by Colonel Pennant, and has been since considerably enlarged, making up 90 beds. The views from the grounds of the hotel, which slope down to the very edge of the water, are as lovely as any in the country, embracing the wooded point of Garth, the shores of Anglesea, Beaumaris, Puffin Island, the Orme's Head, the bay and mountains of Conway. From an eminence at the back of the house this view is further increased by Penmaen Mawr, Carnedd Dafydd, Carnedd

Llewelyn, and the loftiest mountains of the Snowdon range. Royalty has frequently patronized this establishment in the temporary residences of Queen Victoria and the royal families of Portugal, Belgium, Holland, and Russia. The city of Bangor, which numbers about 9000 Inhab. and claims to be the capital of N. Wales, is situated partly in a valley running down from the S., and partly under a high range of rocks parallel with the sea. While depending in a great measure upon the annual resort of tourists, it possesses a larger amount of trade than any other town in N. Wales, shipbuilding being carried on to a considerable extent, and an enormous number of slates being annually exported.

The *Cathedral*, which is also the parish ch., is the only building worth a visit. Like Llandaff and St. David's it is situated badly in a hollow surrounded by hills, and it consequently loses much of its effect. It is dedicated to St. Deiniol, the first bishop, who lived in the 6th cent. during the reign of Maelgwyn Gwynedd, King of Wales. It has sustained more than the usual number of reverses, having been destroyed twice—first by the Saxons in 1071, and again during the wars of Owain Glyndwr in 1402, after which it remained in ruins for nearly a century. By far the greater portion of the ch., as it at present stands, is Perp. work of the 16th cent., although fragments of the 13th cent. work are to be found in some Early Pointed buttresses at the exterior angle of the S. transept. The tower, of 3 stages, was built by Bishop Skevyngton in 1532. He also contributed the nave and part of the transept, as well as the peal of bells, which were sacrilegiously sold by his successor Bishop Bulkeley, who is said to have been punished with blindness when going to see them shipped off. The windows of the transept and E. window of the

choir are good Perp., and "the latter is the more interesting because it is known to be of very late date, as much so as the beginning of the 18th cent., when the appearance of any good restoration or imitation of mediæval work may be truly considered a phenomenon of the most rare occurrence."—*H. L. J.*

The choir, erected by Bishop Dean in 1496, is plain, and contains but little of that carved tracery which is usually such an ornament to English cathedrals. The nave, which is used as a Welsh ch., is furnished with seats of a very unsightly character. The only monument of note is that in the S. transept of Owain Gwynedd, sovereign Prince of Wales in 1169. A long inscription and a figure of the Crucifixion mark the spot in the wall in which his remains are said to be interred.

In the library is a collection of state pamphlets and black-letter books, also an illuminated missal of Bishop Anian (date 1291), a courtly favourite who had the honour of christening Edward II. at Caernarvon.

A large portion of the materials of the present building is said to have been derived from a still older ch., formerly existing a little to the N.E., which was finally pulled down by Bishop Skevyngton. Here began the celebrated Bangorian controversy between Bishops Hoadly and Sherlock, named after this see, over which Hoadly presided from 1715 to 1721.

Very slight traces of a castle, built in the reign of William II., are visible on the hill at the back of the city. Near it is an ancient camp, and there is another on Garth Point. The grammar-school, which bears rather a high reputation, was founded by Dr. Jeffery Glyn in 1537, on the site of an ancient friary. A very neat Roman Catholic chapel in the Norman or Romanesque style has been built in the Caernarvon road.

Distances.—Bethesda Slate Quarries, 6 m.; Penrhyn Castle, 2; Llyn Ogwen, 10; Llandegai, 2; Capel Curig, 14; Aber Fall, 6; Menai Bridge, 3; Tubular Bridge by Llanvair, 5; Llanberis, 18, but by old road through Pentir 12; Beaumaris, by road 8, by ferry from Garth 3; Moelfre Bay, 15; Conway, 14; Dinas Dinorwig, 7½.

Railway to Chester, Holyhead, 24½ m., and Caernarvon, 10. Coach daily to Bettws-y-Coed, viâ Capel Curig; daily to Beaumaris.

Near Bangor is *Penrhyn Castle*, the family residence of Hon. Colonel Douglas Pennant, M.P., to which admission is granted by ticket on certain days, viz. Tuesdays, 2 to 5 P.M., when the family is at home; and 10 to 5 when absent. The tickets are obtained at the hotels, at the rate of 3s. 6d. for two, and so on; the funds arising from this source being partly devoted to the Anglesea and Caernarvonshire Infirmary. Penrhyn is a vast gloomy building in the Norm. style, erected from the designs of Hopper; 14 years were employed in raising it, and no less a sum than half a million (it is said) expended on its construction. Seated on an eminence embowered in trees, it has at a distance a very imposing aspect; but on a nearer approach, and after entering within its walls, the effect is far less agreeable. It is to be regretted that, with the beautiful examples of Conway and Caernarvon close at hand, recourse should not have been had to a later style, instead of to one which prevailed only during the comparatively barbarous period of the middle ages, and is singularly ill-suited to the comforts and wants of the present time. Want of height and of light is a defect perceptible in almost all the rooms; generally speaking they are too like vaults, and the excess of decoration lavished on many parts cannot obviate the

gloom. The hall is fine, but is disfigured by arches of an unusual shape, resembling the top of a coffin or point of a shoe. The painted glass of the windows does credit to Willement. Throughout the house there is a liberal display of the most costly furniture, sculptured chimney-pieces, oak carving and panelling, cabinets of ebony and other precious materials. In one of the bedrooms is a bedstead, the frame of which, down to the posts and tester, by a strange ingenuity, is formed of slate, and elegantly finished. The chapel is little better than a low dark crypt, a fault into which the architect need not have fallen, since it is a defect rather than a characteristic of the style he imitated. The only part that really challenges admiration on the exterior is the tall square donjon tower, 5 stories high, which is copied from Rochester Castle. The stables are remarkable for their extent, and the abundant use made in them of slate—the partitions between the stalls, the mangers, the corn-bins, &c., being of that substance. The walls are built of sad-coloured Mona marble, which when polished assumes a black tint. The park, which is intersected by the Ogwen, extends for several miles, and, with its rich woods and undulating ground, forms, with the towers of the castle, a charming addition to the magnificent panorama around. Close to the great gateway are the ch. and model village of *Llandegai* (Rte. 12). The harbour of Port Penrhyn was formed by the late Lord Penrhyn, one of the greatest benefactors that N. Wales ever possessed, at the mouth of the little river Cegid, for the purpose of shipping the slates from the quarries at Bethesda. It is a busy little port, from whence upwards of 120,000 tons of slate are annually exported.

[An excursion may be made from Bangor to the head of the vale of the Cegid and *Dinas Dinorwig*, though

from the badness of the road it is one more adapted for a pedestrian or riding-party. This fortified post, one of the largest in Caernarvonshire, is situated on an eminence a little to the S.E. of the ch. of *Llanddeiniolen*, and is of oval shape, surrounded by 2 ditches with a lofty bank between them. Within the innermost bank is a heap of stones. There are several antiquities in the vicinity—a rocking-stone, a Druidical circle and cyttian. *Llys Dinorwig*, supposed by some to be the tower of some Norwegian or Danish chief, who established himself for a time by this narrow creek, and *Dinas Mawr*, a second fortified post, lie between Dinas Dinorwig and Llyn Padarn. It is evident, from the numerous posts with which almost every hill in this neighbourhood is crowned, that these hill-districts were jealously defended by their inhabitants. An antiquary may make a long and interesting day of it between Pentir and Llanberis.]

Quitting the Bangor Stat., the rly. is carried through a tunnel and some deep cuttings to Menai Bridge Stat., 61½ m., near which is the *George Hotel*, a first-class and most comfortable establishment, beautifully situated on the banks of the Menai, in full view of the bridge. *The Menai Straits*, 12 m. in length, may be said to commence at Beaumaris and end at Caernarvon, occasionally narrowing, as at the points crossed by the Suspension and Tubular Bridges, between which they become considerably wider. For nearly the whole distance the scenery is of a soft and lovely character, the woods on both sides feathering down to the water's edge, occasionally relieved by a mass of rocks standing out from the foliage. For the first 5 m. well-kept roads run along either bank, which, on the Anglesea side especially, is so lined with residences and villas as to give it the aspect of a continuous suburb. At different points the straits are

crossed by 5 ferries, that previous to the erection of the bridges constituted the only means of communication between Anglesea and the mainland; but the navigation was so dangerous, particularly at the Ferry of *Moel-y-don*, near the Tubular Bridge, that the attention of Government was at length directed to the matter. It was full time that it was so, as between the years 1664 and 1842 no less than 180 passengers had been drowned while crossing. As early as 1810 more than one design for a bridge had been submitted and rejected; but it was not until the completion of the great Holyhead road by Telford that some permanent means of crossing was felt to be not merely a desideratum but a necessity. He selected a spot called *Ynys-y-mock*, where the bold, rocky shores on each side gave opportunities for a lofty roadway, which was carried 100 ft. above high-water mark, so as to allow a full-sized vessel to pass underneath. The chains were raised from a raft moored in the middle of the strait by capstans and pulleys, and then firmly bolted together; they are 16 in number, and are carried over the supporting piers upon rollers, allowing them a certain play backwards and forwards conformably with the contraction and expansion of the iron, so that the alterations of temperature may bring no strain on any part of the stonework. The double roadway of timber rests on iron joists, suspended by rods from the chains above, and protected at the sides by a high trelliswork of iron. A sensible vibration is produced by the passage of a vehicle, or even of a man and horse, but the chains, offering little resistance, have withstood, without shifting, the severest storms, though the roadway was considerably shattered by one which occurred in January, 1839, since which it has been thoroughly repaired and strengthened. The weight which the chains

support is calculated at 489 tons, and that which they are capable of supporting at 2016 tons, leaving an available power of 1520 tons to resist any unusual strain. The total cost of the construction of the bridge was 120,000*l.* It is difficult with the eye to estimate its colossal proportions, and it is only after observing attentively the vehicles and human figures crossing it, which look at a distance like flies caught in the meshes of a spider's web, or larks fluttering in a net, that it is fully appreciated. By descending the bank on the Anglesea side the best near view is obtained; here it is easy to approach the piers, and pass under the lofty stone arches; and seen from this spot, the proportions are truly gigantic. By applying at the bridge-house on the same side, admission may be obtained to see the manner in which the chains pass through the rock and are made fast to it, at the end of a gallery 300 ft. long, by bolts of wrought iron passing behind a thick plate of cast iron. The vibration caused on the chains by the passage of a vehicle over the bridge produces a low humming sound.

The masonry of the bridge is of a hard limestone, brought from Penmon in Anglesea. Beneath the bridge, close to one of the main piers, is a remarkable echo described by Sir John Herschel.

Dimensions.—Length of the suspended portion from pier to pier 579 ft.; total length of the roadway 1000 ft.; height of the roadway above high-water mark 100 ft.; height of the two main piers 153 ft.; total length of each chain 1714 ft., or nearly one-third of a mile; weight of each 121 tons; total weight of ironwork 2186 tons.*

The annual average receipts from the tolls are 1500*l.*, 26,570*l.* having

* There is a bridge at Freiburg in Switzerland of iron wire, also passable for carriages of all kinds, which is 325 ft. longer and 44 ft. higher than this over the Menai.

been paid on the completion of the bridge for compensation to the owners of the Bangor ferry. On the Anglesea side is the populous village of *Llandysilio*, inhabited for the main part by quarrymen who work in the slate-quarries of Llanberis. A characteristic little Anglesea ch. formerly stood on an island close to the shore, but, owing to the increased population, a larger though meaner edifice has been erected on the mainland.

From the stat. at Menai Bridge the rly. descends by a gentle incline to the banks of the Menai, which is crossed by means of the *Britannia Tubular Bridge*, at once the most peculiar and wonderful bridge in the world. The difficulties, which appeared almost insurmountable, of furnishing any means by which a train could be taken across the Straits, were further augmented by the jealous requirements of the Admiralty, who rejected Stephenson's first design of a bridge of 2 cast-iron arches of 100 ft. in height, because the spring of each arch was only 50 ft. above the water. The project of an iron tubular bridge was, however, more favourably received, and a series of experiments was forthwith instituted by Stephenson, assisted by Messrs. Fairbairn, Hodgkinson, and Clark, to ascertain the comparative resisting properties of cast and wrought iron, as well as the form of tube which would be most serviceable. Circular, elliptical, and rectangular tubes were tried in turn, and the latter gained the day, their relative strength being expressed by the figures 13 : 15 : 21. The site of the bridge was chosen on account of the happy position of a rock in the middle of the straits, which it was at once seen would furnish the resting-place for one of the piers, which was forthwith commenced in May 1846. The bridge is supported from shore to shore by very massive abutments, 2 land towers (1 on each side), and the centre or *Britannia tower*. The height of the

latter is 230 ft., with a width at the base of 62 by 52 ft., though as it ascends it tapers away to 55 by 45 ft. In its construction were used more than 148,000 cubic ft. of limestone, and 144,000 of sandstone, the total weight of which was 20,000 tons. The land towers are only 190 ft. high, and are connected with the abutments by tubes each 230 ft. long, each tower being at a distance of 460 ft. from the central tower. The connection is maintained by 2 enormous rectangular galleries or tubes placed side by side to allow the passage of the up and down trains.

The sides, top, and bottom of these galleries are composed of wrought-iron plates of different length, width, and thickness, according to situation. They are joined together by iron rivets, of which upwards of 2,000,000 were used. For the information of those who are fond of statistics, it may also be mentioned that the iron rods consumed in these rivets, when placed singly, were 126 miles in length. The plates are further strengthened by T-shaped irons at the joints, forming a complete pillar every 2 ft. Notwithstanding the flat and even appearance of the bridge, the upper surface forms a parabolic curve, while the bottom is straight, and the whole tube moreover diminishes gradually in height from the centre tower to the shore. A very peculiar feature in the construction of the tube is the employment of series of cells at the top and bottom, ranged in hollow compartments, and having a parallel direction to the long axis of the tube. There are 8 of these cells above and 6 below, and they have the effect of placing the resistance of compression and expansion nearly in equilibrium with each other. The deflection of the tubes from the passage of a train with 200 tons of coals was only $\frac{1}{15}$ of an in., it being calculated that a deflection of 13 inches might be allowed in safety. The tubes were constructed on vast

timber platforms, erected by the shore at high-water mark, and the first was floated on June 19th, 1849, just 3 years after the foundation of the central tower. The flotation was effected by the introduction of 8 pontoons under the platform, which was thus towed away to its position at high tide by the application of enormous hawsers and capstans. When it arrived at its destination, with such nicety had the details been calculated, that the tube fitted into its place within $\frac{3}{4}$ of an in. It was subsequently raised to its elevation by an enormously powerful Bramah's hydraulic press placed in the central tower, which lifted it up at the rate of 6 ft. a day, the masonry being regularly built up at the same rate to support its weight. The tubes are permanently fixed in the central tower, but at either end they travel on moveable iron rollers, so as to allow for the contraction and expansion of the metal at different temperatures, the variation in length for summer and winter being estimated at 12 in. The lateral deflection of the tubes at any time from gales of wind has never exceeded $\frac{3}{8}$ of an in. Two colossal figures of lions couchant guard each entrance, and contribute to the simple majesty of the whole scene, for, although the bridge is unquestionably anything but elegant, nobody can view it without being powerfully impressed with its strength and security, and with the wonderful genius and energy of its builders.

The following résumé of statistics may be interesting to the tourist:—

Rise and fall of the tide	20 ft.
Velocity	often 8 $\frac{1}{4}$ m. an hr.
Entire length of bridge	1833 ft.
Length of tubes between	
land towers	230 ft.
Length of main tubes	472 ft.
Weight of Britannia tower	20,000 tons.
Height	230 ft.
Height of land towers	190 ft.
Amount of timber in plat-	
forms	70,000 cubic ft.
Weight of tubes	10,000 tons.
Number of men employed	1,500
Cost of bridge, more than	500,000 <i>l</i> .

Visitors are admitted to view the bridge on presenting a pass from the engineer at the station, though not allowed to traverse it at all times on account of the danger from the passage of trains. A pathway leads from the Menai Bridge Stat. to the bridge.

In the middle of the Straits is the small island of *Gored Goch*, at which a fishery is carried on.

63 m. *Llanfair Stat.* [Close to the water's edge, on the Anglesea side, is the pretty broach spire of *Llanfair-pwll-y-gwngyll* Ch., which, like many Anglesea chs., has been rebuilt. The old ch. was remarkable for an apse which accommodated not only the altar, but also the pew of the clergyman, whose family sat within the rails. In the ch. yard is a neat obelisk, erected in memory of the workmen who died during the progress of the bridge. Considering the hazardous nature of the employment, the number of deaths by accident was remarkably small.

On the eminence of *Craig-y-dinas*, on rt. of rly. and turnpike-road, is the *Anglesea Column*, 100 ft. high, which was erected to commemorate the military career of the late gallant Marquis of Anglesea, who after the battle of Waterloo went to

“ Review, rout, or play,
With one foot in the grave.”

The column is crowned with a colossal statue in bronze by Noble, put up in the autumn of 1860.

The visitor should ascend the rock (260 ft.) for the sake of the panorama, one of the finest in Wales; below runs the strait, winding like a broad river, and along the horizon rises the majestic outline of the Welsh Alps, from Penmaen Mawr on the extreme l. to Snowdon and his contiguous peaks on the rt. The pass of Nant Ffrancon, through which the Holyhead road passes to Shrewsbury, is distinctly seen, and in front of it rises

Penrhyn Castle. Many residences are scattered about on the banks of the Straits, which at this particular bend are richly wooded. Close to Llanfair Ch. is *Plas Llanfair* (Lord Clarence Paget), beyond which is the tiny port of *Pwll-fanog*. Next comes the celebrated demesne of *Plas Newydd*, the modern seat of the Marquis of Anglesea, though now tenanted by the Dowager Lady Willoughby de Broke. The situation of this mansion is all that can be desired, it being sheltered on every side, with the exception of the river front, by fine woods, “the descendants of the ancient Llwyn Moel, one of the principal groves dedicated to Druidic worship.” The number of cromlechs and early remains in this neighbourhood testify to the religious importance of this district. *Plas Newydd* is noted for having been the temporary residence of George IV., who paid a visit to the Marquis of Anglesea on his way to Ireland; subsequently of her Majesty the Queen, who, as Princess Victoria, spent a summer here in 1832. Within the grounds are 2 cromlechs, the largest of which was until late years the most perfect in the principality, the top stone being 12 ft. long by 10 ft. broad. There are not less than 28 cromlechs still existing in different parts of the island, but this is probably the most perfect monument of the sort in Britain. At the back of *Plas Newydd* is *Plas Gwyn*, the birthplace of the Rev. H. Rowlands, author of ‘*Mona Antiqua*.’ It is now called *Plas Llwynon* (A. C. Prettyman, Esq.). On the farm of *Bryn Celliddu*, a little to the N., is another very interesting cromlech or chamber, formerly surrounded by *Carneddau*, with which it was connected by means of a subterranean passage 18 ft. long. Many human bones were found here, which, on being touched, mouldered to dust. To the S. of *Plas Newydd* is *Plas Coch*, a fine old Elizabethan house erected in the 16th cent. by Hugh

Hughes, Attorney-General. It is now the seat of W. B. Hughes, Esq., late M.P. for Caernarvon. The family of Hughes has been seated in Anglesea ever since the 12th cent. *Llanedwen* Ch. is prettily situated on a bank sloping down to the water. A good effect is produced in the ch.-yard by planting box round the graves. "The whole of the narrow earthen mound is covered with thickly-set box-plants, which are allowed to grow, and are trimmed into a compact solid form, having the appearance, if it may be so termed, of a vegetable sarcophagus." From hence the tourist who does not wish to proceed to Llanidan may return to *Gaerwen* Stat. ($3\frac{1}{2}$ m.), or, if he prefer it, may cross the ferry at *Moel-y-don* to the little port of *Dinorwig* (Rte. 14), on the opposite bank. Both this ferry and *Porthamel*, a spot a little lower down, have been the scene of great military events. At *Moel-y-don* part of Edward I.'s army crossed by a bridge of boats, and met with a severe defeat from the Welsh, in 1282; and at the latter place the Roman general Suetonius effected a landing A.D. 60 by the same means. The Druids fiercely 'disputed the attempt, and with such loss that a spot between *Porthamel* and the river is still called *Bryn Beddan* or the Hill of Graves. The same passage was chosen a few years later by Agricola. The historian Tacitus gives a graphic account of the engagement, which in fact proved the deathblow to Druidic worship: "Præsidium impositum victis, excisique luci, sævis superstitionibus sacri."

1 m. lower down is the village of *Llanidan*, the ancient ch. of which formerly belonged to the Priory of *Beddgelert*. It unfortunately having fallen into decay, a pretext was made for demolishing it altogether and building a new ch. at *Bryn Sieneyn*. This parish was celebrated for its *Maen Morddwydd*, or Thigh-stone,

which was endowed with the miraculous property of always returning to the place from whence it was moved. Giraldus relates that a countryman, to try the powers of the stone, fastened it to his thigh, which immediately mortified, and the stone returned to its original position.

The district between Llanidan and the river Braint teems with early remains, all of which are described in Rowland's '*Mona Antiqua*,' though many have disappeared in the course of time. The principal of them are *Caer-leh*, thought to have been a Roman stat., as a Roman road has been at times exposed running in a direction towards the Menai; *Tre'r Driv*, or residence of the Arch-Druid, of which some remains were visible in Pennant's time; *Brein-gwyn*, a circular hollow, considered to have been the tribunal under the Druidic dispensation; a large cromlech 9 ft. long by 7 broad at *Perthi-Duon*; a 2nd cromlech in good preservation at *Bodowyr*; semicircular dykes at *Gwydryn* and *Castell Edris*. All these spots are little more than a mile radius from Llanidan, and point out the extreme importance, both in a religious and military point of view, of this portion of Anglesea. In about 3 m. from Llanidan the pedestrian can reach the *Tal-y-joel* ferry and cross to Caernarvon (Rte. 14.) [*Llanfair* Stat. is a convenient starting-point, for those who do not drive from Bangor or Beaumaris, to *Penmynydd* Ch., 3 m., situated at the head of the valley of the Braint. It is a plain building of the 15th cent., and is chiefly remarkable for containing (in the nave chapel) an elaborate alabaster tomb of a knight and lady, which, tradition states, belonged to one of the Tudor family, who had patrimonial estates in this part of the country. It is also said to have been brought from Llanfaes after the spoliation. Her Majesty gave 50l. towards the removal of the monument, which was getting sadly mu-

tilated, "as the parishioners had long been accustomed to chip off portions of the alabaster, and grind them into powder for medicinal purposes." From hence it is $2\frac{1}{2}$ m. to Pentraeth. 1 m. l. is *Llanffinan* Ch., a modern pseudo-Norm. building, in a very picturesque situation. Close by is *Plas Penmynydd*, an ancient house of the date of 1370, the birthplace of Owen Tudor, the husband of Catherine of France, widow of Henry V. and Queen Dowager of England.]

66 m. GAERWEN JUNCT. (Rte. 9). The great Holyhead road runs from the Tubular Bridge almost side by side with the rly., from which it diverges a little before reaching this stat.

69 m. l. the graceful spire of the modern ch. of *Llangaffo*, built in 1845. In the parish are slight remains of *Bodwyr*, an old house of the 16th cent.

The traveller by rail or road will be struck with the magnificent views of the Snowdonian Mountains, terminating in the W. with the abrupt precipices of Yr Eifl Mountains. As the Holyhead side of Anglesea is approached, the appearance of their isolated summits are like clouds in the horizon. At 71 m. the rly. is crossed by a viaduct over the embanked tidal river of the *Malldraeth*, having on l. *Bodorgan*, the seat of F. O. Meyrick, Esq.

72½ m. *Bodorgan* Stat. [the nearest point for visiting Aberfraw, Newborough, and from thence across the ferry to Caernarvon. Close to the stat. l. is *Llyn Coron*, of considerable size, and affording good fishing. From it issues the little river *Fraw*, which falls into the sea at *Aberfraw*, $2\frac{1}{2}$ m. l., now a paltry village, but at one time celebrated for being the royal residence of Roderic the Great, A.D. 870, and subsequently of Llewelyn, who had a palace here at the time of his death, 1282. The sands have so

completely overwhelmed the neighbourhood, that no traces of these buildings now exist. The ch., which has been restored, has 2 aisles, and contains an interesting doorway of the 12th cent. in the S. aisle. The font is of the 14th cent. The *Prince Llewelyn* is a comfortable inn, and good head-quarters for anglers in *Llyn Coron*. Aberfraw was the birthplace of Walter Stewart, according to Rowlands, the ancestor of the royal house of Stuart. From hence the tourist may extend his walk to the singular E. Perp. ch. of *Llangwyfan*. It is situated on a small island (which the sea is fast demolishing), connected with the mainland merely by a narrow causeway, which is so frequently flooded as to render the performance of service impossible. In former times "the service was adapted to the state of the tide; and when the wind blows briskly in the same direction the tide will set in earlier than expected, causing an indecorous breaking up of the devotions of the congregation."

2 m. from Aberfraw and $\frac{3}{4}$ m. l. of Bodorgan Stat. is the Early Perp. ch. of *Llangadwaladr*, consisting of nave and chancel with N. and S. chapels attached, the latter erected in 1660. On the lintel of the S. doorway of the nave is an inscribed stone of the 7th cent., which has been thus deciphered, "Catamanus Rex Sapientissimus opinatissimus omnium regum." It boasts a peculiarly beautiful stained-glass window, a long account of which is given by Browne Willis in his history of Bangor Cathedral. It is of 3 lights, and contains the following subjects:— In the centre the Crucifixion, and a figure in royal robes, supposed to be King David. In the N. light the Virgin Mary. In the lower compartment Llewelyn and his wife. In the S. light St. John; and below is Meyrick ap Llewelyn and his wife.

The whole window has been well restored by Wilmeshurst. In the N. or Bodorgan chapel a good memorial window has been put up by Mr. Meyrick to the memory of his parents. 1 m. rt. is *Bodorgan*, the seat of F. O. Meyrick, Esq., which at one time was celebrated for possessing the finest gardens in Wales. Nearer the sea is *Bodowen*, a former mansion of the Owen family. From this the traveller must to a certain degree retrace his steps to the head of the estuary, unless, indeed, he fords the river (feasible at low water) to *Newborough*, another wretched decayed village, which, like Aberfraw, boasted a royal residence. It, however, flourished when Aberfraw was virtually extinct, as it was made a borough by Edward I., and sent a member to parliament as late as Henry VIII. A curious trade is kept up here, that of manufacturing mats, nets, and ropes from the seaweed grass (*Amnophila arenaria*), the produce being taken to Caernarvon market. The botanist will find many uncommon maritime plants growing on the sandy shores in this neighbourhood, such as *Ruppia maritima*, *Silene maritima*, *Arenaria tenuifolia* and *A. peploides*, *Crambe maritima*, *Erigeron acer*, *Limbarda triensis*, and *Anthyllis Dillenii*. The ch. is Dec., and upwards of 100 ft. in length, consisting of nave and choir, forming a single aisle. It has a good font of 12th cent., and a good E. window. At the extremity of *Newborough Warren* is the island of *Llanddwyn*. But little is left of the *Abbey*, which, when intact, was a cruciform ch. 70 ft. long, of late Perp. style. There is only the E. end and part of the side walls of the choir remaining. "Almost the whole of the island has been overwhelmed with a mass of sand, inasmuch as the violent winds have blown from the opposite coast of Arvonian sand raised up by the force of tempests, and thrown upon this shore."—*Rowlands*. Notwithstanding the isolation of this

spot; it was notorious for the intrigues that were carried on by the adherents of the Earl of Richmond against Richard King of England, in which Dean Kyffin figures conspicuously. *Llanddwyn* was one of the earliest prebends belonging to the cathedral of Bangor. In the ch. of *Llanvair-cwmmed*, 1½ m. from Newborough, is a singular font of the 12th cent., ornamented with misshapen heads. Against the N. wall is an elaborate cross-fleury coffin-lid. Between this village and the ferry of Talyfoel is *Maes-y-porth*, an ancient seat of the Lloyd family. From Bodorgan to the ferry is about 8 m.] [3 m. rt. of stat. is *Henblas* (E. Lloyd, Esq.), and the birthplace of Dr. Lloyd, Bishop of St. Asaph, one of the 7 committed to the Tower by James II. In *Cerreg-ceinwen* Ch. (restored in 1860) is an interesting circular font of the 12th cent., with 6 sculptured compartments, also a sculptured tombstone over the door.]

75 m. *Tygroes* Stat. On rt. are *Llyn Bodrie* and the little ch. of Tallyn: on the coast, l., are a cromlech and tumulus. 76 m. rt. the modern ch. of *Llanfauelog*. There are 2 cromlechs in this parish. *Llynfauelog* lies to the l. of rly. Passing l. the little E. Perp. ch. of *Llanfair-y-Nerbwl*, the rly. rejoins the Holyhead road at *Valley*, 81 m. [the nearest point from which to make an excursion round the western coast of Anglesea, which contains an unusual number of cromlechs, camps, and erect stones. The scenery, too, in many parts is bold and fine, though from want of any accommodation this portion of the county is frequented by few. 4 m. N.E., near the village of *Bodedern*, are the seats of *Treiorwerth* and *Presuddfed* (Captain King), formerly belonging to the Bulkeley family. In the grounds of the latter mansion are 2 cromlechs. At *Llantrissant*, on the banks of the Alaw, 7 m. from Valley, is a spot

known as the Tomb of *Bronwen*, who, according to tradition, died of grief from a blow received at the hands of her husband, King of Ireland. 7 m. rt. are the lake and mansion of *Carreglwyd* (— Griffith, Esq.), who claims descent from Ednyfed Vychan, of Tregarnedd (p. 70).]

Shortly after quitting the Valley Stat. an arm of the sea is crossed by the *Stanley* embankment $\frac{3}{4}$ m. long, upon which the turnpike-road is carried also. A tremendous current rushes through the arches at the turn of the tide. On rt. is *Penrhos*, the seat of Hon. W. O. Stanley, M.P., situated in almost the only woods that Holyhead Island can boast.

84½ m. *Holyhead* (*Inns*: Royal, very good; Liverpool Arms; Castle) has for the last century attracted a certain share of public attention, from its convenient situation as regards the Irish coast. It is the nearest point of English ground to Dublin, to which place packets ran in the time of William III. Of late years the opportunities which it afforded have been made the most of, and as a postal station and harbour of refuge it has assumed a national importance. The population in 1801 was little more than 2000, but is now considerably over 10,000, nearly all of whom are employed in the harbour works. The distance from the station to the pier is 1 m., although the rails are carried, for the convenience of the mails and the through traffic, to the very end. The main part of the town is built close to the harbour, from whence steep streets run somewhat abruptly. The harbour is formed by an estuary of considerable area, which at ebb tide is completely dry. At the mouth of it is *Ynys Halen* or the Salt Island, which is connected with the mainland by an iron bridge, across which the road and rly. are carried. From this island, on which are built the harbour

offices, a long pier of 1000 ft. runs due E., faced seawards by massive embankments, thus protecting the harbour from the heavy seas which in N.W. gales dash over the pier in mountains. At the entrance of the pier is an arch of *Mona* marble, erected to commemorate the landing of George IV. in 1821, and at the end is a lighthouse displaying a white light. To assist vessels making for the harbour in a N.W. gale, a chain was sunk across the pier-heads to enable them to grapple it. Along the side of the harbour lie the mail-steamers, which leave Holyhead twice and sometimes oftener every day for Kingstown, doing the distance of 63 m. in less than 4 hours, and reducing the time between London and Dublin to 10 hours by the mail-train, a pleasant contrast to the days when passengers were more than a week on the journey, and the inns were frequently thronged with a month's accumulation of travellers waiting for a fair wind. The harbour works, which include graving-docks, &c., were carried out from plans by Rennie, at a cost of upwards of 150,000*l.* On the opposite rocky side of the estuary is an *obelisk* to the memory of Captain Skinner, commander of one of the mail steamers, who, after a long period of service between Dublin and Holyhead, was washed overboard in 1833, during a gale off the North Stack Rocks. Although much improved of late years, Holyhead is still a primitive and irregularly built town, especially the portion near the old ch. Long, ugly rows of houses have latterly sprung into existence between the town and harbour of refuge; for the religious accommodation of the tenants a very handsome new ch. has been erected, at a cost of nearly 5000*l.* The parish ch. of *St. Cybi* occupies the site of a religious house founded by this saint, or, according to others, by Prince Maelgwyn, which subsequently be-

came a canon's residence and was known as the College. It is a cruciform building of the time of Edward III., and is by far the most interesting ch. in Anglesea. The exterior is remarkable for its sculpture, particularly on the S. transept (which has an embattled parapet), and on the S. porch, which contains a figure of St. Cybi under a canopy. In the interior a curious effect is produced by the piers of the S. transept being higher than those of the N. The walls of the ch. yard on 3 sides are believed to be Roman; a portion of it is curiously sunk to a level with the harbour road, the ch. itself being on a steep hill.

1½ m. from the town are the immense works of the *Holyhead Harbour of Refuge*, which were commenced by the Admiralty in 1846, under the superintendence of Mr. Rendel, a commission having been previously issued to report on the rival merits of Holyhead and Porth Dinlleyn on the Caernarvonshire coast as a packet station and harbour. This was prior to the making of the Chester and Holyhead line, as the Great Western had put forward a scheme to construct a line to Porth Dinlleyn. By the selection of the Chester route the latter project was shelved, though projects have been lately revived by a different Company to make Porth Dinlleyn an Irish station (Rte. 6). The works, which are still in progress and likely to be so for some time to come, are of extreme interest from their very massive scale. The breakwater and pier are carried out in the shape of a gigantic half-moon (the latter to extend for 7500 ft.), and are of such colossal dimensions as to make it appear impossible that any sea could have power over them. Notwithstanding its strength, a great portion of the end of the structure was carried away in the gale in Oct. 1859—the same in which the 'Royal Charter' was lost. The enormous blocks of stone, which are

lifted to their places by cranes equally Cyclopean, are brought down from the quarries on a rly. of 10 ft. gauge, worked by locomotive power. The area enclosed by the pier will be when finished about 316 acres, the length across will be $\frac{3}{4}$ m., and there will be 6½ fathoms of water at all times of the tide. The total estimated cost amounts to more than 1,303,000*l.* Close to the works is the castellated residence of Mr. G. C. Dobson, the Government resident engineer, who has charge of the works under Mr. Hawkshaw, C.E., and who gives every facility to visitors. The visitor should proceed up the rly. to the quarries in the Holyhead Mountain, which are on the same gigantic scale as everything else. Attached to them are the different offices erected for the comfort of the workmen. From hence a rough mountain-path leads up to the signal-station, passing on the way a small monumental block of granite in memory of Captain Hutchinson, R.E., who was killed in 1851, while superintending the blasting of a portion of the mountain by the electric battery.

The *Holyhead Telegraph* was erected by the Liverpool Dock Trustees to signal, by means of semaphore, the arrival of vessels in the offing. This system has been partially abolished within the last few years by the establishment of electric telegraph wires, which are carried along the turnpike-road. The appearance of the posts, as they mount up the steep sides of the hill, is very singular. As might be supposed, a magnificent panorama is visible from the station, which, if needs be, is extended by the telescope of the keeper. To the W., in clear weather, the Irish coast and the Wicklow mountains are plainly visible. To the S. the whole of the Holyhead island and a large part of Anglesea are spread out, backed up in the distance by the Alpine ranges

of Snowdonia. To the N.E. are the *Skerries Islands*, upon which is a lighthouse 117 ft. above high-water, showing a steady bright light. The dues received here were so large that the Trinity Board were compelled to give the owner, M. Jones, Esq., 450,000*l.* as compensation for taking the light into their own hands. The rock-scenery at this part of the coast is of the highest grandeur. Just underneath the signal-station are the *Ynys Arw*, or *North Stacks*, which are hollowed out into successive caverns by the action of the sea. The largest of them is called the Parliament House, from the noise made by the birds on entering. These caves are, of course, inaccessible to the tourist, except by making a boating excursion from Holyhead at half ebb in very calm weather. From the signal-station a short but steep climb leads to the summit of the Holyhead mountain, or *Caer Gybi*, 709 ft. As its name implies, this was a military station, and traces of fortification still remain, together with a rudely-built circular tower, supposed to have answered the purpose of a pharos or watch-tower. Spear-heads and bronze rings have been dug up in the neighbourhood at different times, and a gold coin was exhumed at *Capel Llochwyd*, where a chapel or oratory once existed, though nothing is left to mark the site. 1 m. to the S.W. is the *South Stack*, famous for its magnificent rock-scenery and the lighthouse with which the island is crowned. In the precipitous face of the cliffs of the mainland 380 steps, known as the *Stairs*, are cut, at the end of which the path is carried across a fearful chasm by means of a chain suspension-bridge, which, from its light and airy construction, appears as though a thread of gossamer were thrown across. Previous to the erection of this bridge the risk of crossing must have been fearfully great, as at first the only communi-

cation was by means of a rope bridge. The clean white buildings attached to the lighthouse are almost a pleasant relief to the eye on emerging from between these walls of cliff. The lighthouse was erected in 1809. It is 212 ft. above high water, and bears a revolving white light, showing a full one every 2 minutes. The sea is awful here in S.W. gales, frequently dashing over the whole rock and the dwellings of the keepers. There is a passage between the rock and the main, but so narrow that unless the water is perfectly smooth an experienced navigator might hesitate to attempt it, even in a boat; and yet through this channel, flanked and fringed as it is with bristling rocks, starting like sharks' teeth from its yawning sides, a large cutter, one of the post-office packets conveying the mail from Dublin to the Head, passed in a heavy sea some 60 years ago. The S. Stack, like the N., is also perforated by vast caverns, which the sea has worn out of the chloritic schists, in which the geologist should notice the extraordinary contorted flexures. "The schists of Anglesea are simply an altered portion of the same slates and grits which constitute the base of the Silurian series of deposits in the adjacent counties of Caernarvon and Merioneth. In other words, they have been altered into chlorite and mica schists, and in other spots into quartz rock, accompanied by flexures of the beds."—*Siluria*. Another singular feature in these rocks is the innumerable quantities of sea-birds—gulls, guillemots, razor-bills, cormorants, and even peregrine falcons—which breed here without fear or restraint, as they are not allowed to be shot, on account of the services that they render to vessels in foggy weather by surrounding them with loud cries immediately a gun is fired. If it is early in the season it is a very singular sight to look over the sides of the Stairs and watch the long rows

of young birds, unable to fly, perched on the narrow ledges. As the eye gets accustomed to the rock, you can see thousands of fledglings at different levels, like little white specks, which but for their movements might be taken for stains on the rock. They are said to retain their position on these ledges by means of a gummy secretion. As regards the migration of the gulls, "it is positively asserted by the light-keepers, as an extraordinary fact, that they will return to the S. Stack during the same night on or about the 10th of February, and retire, with the exception of those that, having been robbed on the main, had resorted to the island to renew their labours of incubation, about the night of the 12th of August. The keepers state that in the middle of the former night they are warned of their arrival by a great noise, as it were a mutual greeting and cheering, adding that they look to their return as that of so many old acquaintances after a long absence, announcing the winter to be over and spring approaching."—*Stanley*. Until forbidden of late years, an adventurous trade was followed of procuring the eggs of the birds from the cliffs. "A strong stake was driven into the ground at some distance from the edge of the precipice, to which a rope sufficiently long was attached. Fastening the other end round his middle, taking the coil upon his arm, and laying hold with both his hands, the man throws himself over the cliffs, placing his feet against the sides and constantly shifting his hands. He thus descends to the abode of the birds and secures the contents."—*Nicholson*.

From the Stacks a good road leads to the town. A visit may be paid to the little Perp. ch. of *Rhoscolyn*, near which is the ancient house of *Bodior*.

Distances.—London, 272 m.; Dub-

lin, 69; Chester, 84; Bangor, 24½; Amlwch, 20; Llangefni, 23; Stack Lighthouse, 3½.

ROUTE 8.

FROM MENAI BRIDGE TO BEAUMARIS,
PENMON, AND AMLWCH, BY THE
EAST COAST OF ANGLESEA.

On the Anglesea side of the Menai Bridge the high-road divides, on l. continuing to Llanfair and Holyhead, and on rt. to Beaumaris, 4½ m., passing a succession of handsome marine villas fronting the straits, of which the principal are *Craig-y-don* (T. P. Williams, Esq., M.P.), *Rhi-anfa* (Lady Sarah Hay Williams), *Glan-y-menai* (A. Roberts, Esq.), and *Glyn-y-garth* (Mrs. Schwabe).

A conspicuous landmark on the hills on l. is the tower of *Llandegfan*, the mother-ch. of Beaumaris, remarkable for its large S. chapel, by which the chancel is nearly eclipsed.

Beaumaris (*Hotels*: Bulkeley Arms, facing the sea, very good; Sportsman) dates its foundation from the same time as the erection of the castle by Edward I., who intended the town to be a commercial emporium for this part of Wales. For a long time it answered the purpose, and was the residence of a large number of well-to-do merchants, as is evident from

the existence of local tokens, current in the 17th cent. Its first charter dates from 1283; but its provisions were altered and enlarged by Elizabeth. At that time a town-hall was built of wood near Chester, and set up at Beaumaris. This, however, has been succeeded by at least two others, the present one containing the largest assembly-room in North Wales. The great trade of the town was in leather, and two officers of the corporation were called "Searchers and Sealers of Leather." To this day old tanpits are frequently exposed in digging foundations for new buildings. Though commerce has long forsaken it, Beaumaris has enjoyed and still enjoys a steady and respectable watering-place reputation, though different from its newly created neighbour under the Orme's Head. Many families are annually attracted here, who appreciate the bracing air, the glorious scenery, and the economy of housekeeping; and with such a prospect of sea, mountains, and shipping always before him, the visitor will run less risk of ennui than in most other watering-places: and rides and walks around are both numerous and interesting. The town is clean and well built, and has a handsome terrace overlooking the Green, a large open space of green sward close to the pier. At the back of it is the *Castle*, a magnificent Edwardian ruin, built in the low situation of the "Beau Marais" (from which the place is named), and in that respect offering a great contrast to the bold sites of Conway or Caernarvon. It would appear as if it were placed there so as to command a ready access to the sea, with which it is connected by a short canal. In shape it is a square enclosed within a regular hexagon. The external defences are a massive wall flanked by 10 drum towers, the largest being at the angles. The principal entrance faces the sea, and is defended by 2 round bastion towers, between which

is a pointed arch and portcullis leading into the inner works. Close to the entrance, and running towards the sea, is a narrow wall, formerly carried over the moat by an arch. This was called the Gunner's Wall, and was intended to overlook and protect the entrance of supplies, &c. Within "this fortified envelope" is the quadrangle, the buildings of which, mainly consisting of the state apartments, rise to a greater height than the outer walls. The quadrangle is 190 ft. long, and is also defended by 10 drum towers, making with those at the entrance 24. On the N.W. side is the hall with 5 large windows fronting the inner court, and on the E. is the chapel, which has a groined roof and canopied niches in the wall. It is lighted by 5 Early lancet windows. A great portion of the court is traversed by galleries in the thickness of the wall, and within the daintily kept area is a racket-court. The park-like meadows around the castle are liberally opened to the public by Sir R. B. Williams Bulkeley for cricket matches. Considering the size and strength of the fortress, it is barren in historical events. In 1646 it was held for the king by Col. Sir Richard Bulkeley, until forced to surrender on honourable terms to Gen. Mytton. It was at this crisis that "a Royalist officer left his men locked up in the ch. tower and ran away." The town was formerly encircled by walls, of which but a very small portion remains near the church. Deeds of the time of Edward III. show that the land on which the castle stands belonged to certain families in Anglesea, who gave it in exchange for property in other counties. It seems probable that the castle was never fully completed. The earliest constables whose names are known are William de Felton in 1297, and John de Havering, his successor, in 1300. In Speed's map a place is shown on the N.W. of the castle; this was perhaps the old chapel of St,

Mengan, which preceded the church of St. Mary, the immediate forerunner of the present church, which was built at the close of the 13th cent. (with the exception of the chancel, which is of the 16th), and has a nave with N. and S. aisles, chancel, and tower at the W. end. The piers of the nave arches are hexagonal, and over them are small circular quatrefoil lights (4 on the S. and 2 on the N. side) doing duty as clerestory windows. The tracery in the side window of the aisles "is observed in the parish ch. of Llanbeblig near Caernarvon, and nowhere else in Wales, but the original of which may be found in one of the great southern windows at Canterbury, where it forms an admirable and striking feature."—*II. L. J.* Observe the heads terminating the drip of the chancel arch, as also those on the carved woodwork and sedilia, which all differ from one another. On the Miserere seat are figures with rustic dress, and some with implements of the period. The monuments are good: one of white marble, by Ternouth, in the middle of the chancel, to the wife of Sir R. B. Williams Bulkeley; by Westmacott, to the late Baron Bulkeley; an alabaster altar-tomb in the vestry, of the date of the 15th cent., on which are the recumbent figures of a knight and lady. This latter is said to have been brought from Llantfaes Priory at its spoliation.

There is also a mural monument on the S. side of the chancel in memory of 5 knights who were connected with the Irish government in the 16th cent., and a good brass of the time of Henry VIII. to a member of the Bulkeley family. No parish of Beaumaris is mentioned in Henry III.'s valuations.

Baron Hill, the beautiful seat of Sir R. B. Williams Bulkeley, Bart., who is constable of Beaumaris Castle and "king of these parts," is situated on a wooded hill overlooking

the town, and surmounted by very charming grounds which are freely opened to the visitor. The present mansion was from designs by Wyatt in lieu of the former one erected in 1618 by Sir R. Bulkeley; previous to this time the family tenanted a house in the town called *Hen Blas*, still in existence near the ch. It is of the date of Henry VIII. with later additions, and still preserves some good features, particularly the ceiling of the hall. An inscription below one of the upper windows records—

"If God be for us, who can be against us?"

Two rooms—one a joiner's shop, the other a bakehouse—have handsome ceilings; and in an upper apartment is the coat-of-arms of a lord-deputy of Ireland, who was there entertained on his way through Beaumaris. Remnants of ancient woodwork may be found upon one of the outer staircases.

In the grounds of Baron Hill is the coffin-lid and bust of the Princess Joan (of the date of the 13th cent.), brought here from the adjacent priory of Llantfaes, of which her husband Llewelyn ap Iorwerth was the founder. Previous to its removal to its present situation it served as a watering-trough.

In the wood above the Garth road, formerly "*Cerrig-gwyddel* wood," are many traces of that ancient people whom the Cymry are believed to have driven out before them.

Conveyances.—Daily to Menai Bridge ($4\frac{1}{2}$ m.) and Bangor. Steamer to Liverpool, calling off Llandudno.

Distances.—Bangor, by Garth Ferry 3 m., by road 8; Tubular Bridge and Llanfair Ch., 6; Penmon Priory, $4\frac{1}{2}$; Puffin Island, $5\frac{1}{2}$; Pentraeth, 5; Moelfre Bay, 12; Penrynnydd, $7\frac{1}{2}$.

[The road to Penmon skirts the sea-side for a greater part of the way; 1 m. l. the *Friars*, a house belonging to Sir R. Williams Bulkeley. Near it are the remains of *Llantfaes*

Friary, a religious house of some importance, founded by Llewelyn previous to the building of Beaumaris. What appears to have been the conventual ch. is now used as a stable, which displays some lancet windows of the 13th cent. In building the present stables a large quantity of human bones were dug out. From the cellars of the mansion, leading towards the shore, and inclining towards the site of a former farm called "Friar's Back," is a curious subterranean passage, wide and high enough for a man to walk upright along it for about 40 yards. It then gradually slopes to a lower level, and the bottom becomes filled with sand and gravel, carried down by a little rivulet rising under the mountains. The passage is of masonry, arched and flagged at the top, and is remarkably sweet and clean; a circumstance the more remarkable, as the stream only finds its exit at the lower end, bubbling up like a spring. Llanfaes was occupied by Franciscan monks, a somewhat unusual circumstance, as this house with others at Caermarthen and Cardiff were the only friars of this order in Wales. Leland mentions it as "*Llanvaes cœnobium fratrum minorum.*" The 4 monuments described under the heads of Beaumaris, Penmynydd, Llandegai, and Llanbellig, were all said to have been carried off from this friary at the spoliation, when it passed into the hands of the Whyte family. It is stated that the monastery suffered great damages during the wars of Owain Glyndwr. Its etymology was probably Llan Maes, "the ch. of the battle-field," a bloody engagement having been fought here between the Welsh and Saxons under Egbert. It is said that even now the sea, which is gaining on this portion of the coast, frequently washes out bones and skulls from the face of the cliff. The ch., which has a broach spire, was rebuilt in the Dec. style in 1845, replacing one of

the 14th cent. Inside are armorial bearings of the Whyte family, the former owners of the estate. The old mansion of the Whytes of Friars has been recently pulled down, and a similar fate attended that of the Hamptons of Henllys, "the old palace," but in this case a new and handsome house has been built, and is now the seat of Capt. Lewis Hampton. Here are preserved many objects of antiquity, including a bedstead that formerly belonged to Owen Tudor. William Hampton, of Henllys, was one of the first corporation of Beaumaris appointed by the charter of Elizabeth in 1563.

2 m. rt. near the shore is *Tre'r-castell*, a lately built house, incorporated with an old mansion of the time of Edward I., which was said to have been one of the principal seats of the Tudor family in Anglesea. Sir Tudor ap Gronwy, on being questioned by the king as to his right of assuming the rank of knighthood, defended his claim on the grounds that he was a gentleman, had an ample fortune, and would fight any man who questioned his right. It is mentioned that the cellars of this mansion were famous for their stock of metheglin, which was regularly supplied to Queen Elizabeth, a descendant of this family.

3 m. l. *Tros-yr-Afon* (R. Williams, Esq.); and on the summit of a densely overgrown bank opposite is *Castle Lleiniog*, a square fort with a circular tower at each corner, founded by Hugh Lupus, Earl of Chester, and Hugh Earl of Shrewsbury, in 1098, when they invaded Anglesea and overran the country.

From hence a rather bad road runs close to the water's edge, and passes the mountain limestone quarries which furnished the stone for the Britannia Bridge, to $4\frac{1}{2}$ *Penmon Priory*. By following the coast the

pedestrian will cut off a mile. Penmon, for the beauty of its situation and its architectural features, is a very interesting spot. A religious establishment was founded here (Penmon signifies the head of Mona) as early as the 6th cent. by Einion Frenhin, who placed over it his brother Seiriol, after whom Ynys Seiriol or Puffin Island was named. The ecclesiastics of this establishment were of the order of St. Augustine. The conventual ch., which had fallen into great neglect (the N. transept, which had been used as a sheepfold, having entirely disappeared), was restored in 1854 in the most simple and judicious manner. It is a cruciform ch., as the missing N. transept has been rebuilt. The general style is Norm., with the exception of the chancel, which is of the early part of the 15th cent., a very prevalent feature throughout Anglesea. Notice the Norm. arcades in the transept, those on the W. side being on a higher elevation than those on the E.; also the deeply recessed windows of the nave, and beautifully sculptured arch with Norm. mouldings. In the excavations for the restoration a curious enamelled plate of Limoges work of the 13th cent. was found. A cloister is supposed to have led on the N. side of the ch. to the holy well, though the Rev. H. L. Jones conjectures that it might have been formed by overhanging limestone cliffs. Over the doorway leading out of the ch. is a curious figure of a dragon with head recurved, mouth open, and tail twisted over the back. A similar carving appears on one of the pinnacles of Holyhead ch., and is believed to be a badge of Maelgwyn Gwynedd. It is remarkable that these symbols bear a very strong resemblance to the Salamander of Francis I., so conspicuous about the Château de Blois. At rt. angles to the ch. is a farm-house, formerly the prior's residence, to which the ruin-

ous buildings of the refectory are attached. On a bank opposite the ch. is the ancient pigeon-house, with a singular domical roof of the time of Henry VIII. There is a very graceful and peculiar *cross* on the hill above covered with zigzag ornaments. The compartments represent the mockery of our Saviour by the soldiers, who are depicted with the heads of beasts.

Crossing the down on rt. the tourist will descend opposite the *Lighthouse*, erected in 1838. It is approached from the shore by an iron bridge, and it is said contains more courses of masonry under water than even the Eddystone. He may then visit *Puffin Island*, otherwise Ynys Seiriol and Priestholm. Probably the first ecclesiastical establishment was on this island, and was removed to Penmon when it became of more importance. There still exists an oblong tower 40 ft. in height, with a low conical roof similar to the one at Penmon, of which it was very likely a counterpart. Here are also fragments of buildings, and fissures in the limestone which served as places of burial. "The ch. on Ynys Seiriol was smaller than that on the mainland of Penmon, and was no doubt intended to accommodate only such of the monastic brethren as came hither for more perfect seclusion or for those customary retirements from the world, adopted in religious times." Giraldus Cambrensis mentions a curious legend, that the island was invariably overrun with mice whenever the monks began to disagree. Even now it is said to be unduly infested with the large Norwegian rat, which, together with puffins, rabbits innumerable, and the signal-station keeper, form the only population. Tradition asserts that a sarn or ancient causeway exists between Puffin Island and the opposite coast of the Orme's Head. However that may be, there

is no doubt whatever of the existence of dangerous shoals in the bay. On the Dutchman's Bank, which lies nearly due S., the 'Rothesay Castle' was wrecked Aug. 17, 1831, when upwards of 100 persons lost their lives.

The tourist who can afford the time may very agreeably extend his wanderings to the E. side of *Redwharf Bay*, and return inland to Beaumaris. The road skirts an elevated range of hill, passing the villages of *Llangoed* and *Llanvihangel* to *Bwrdd Arthur*, or Arthur's Round Table (also called *Dinas Sylwy*), the largest camp in Anglesea. It shelves N. towards the sea, and is nearly surrounded by a deep fosse between 2 walls of stones placed edgeways. As is usually the case, the internal area contains traces of dwellings. There is a fine view from the summit both coastwards and inland, and a good general notion of Anglesea may be obtained from thence. The very small ch. of *Llanvihangel*, which contains a curious moveable pulpit, lies just underneath the eastern slope. The road now descends the hill to *Llandonna*, beautifully situated, overhanging the bay of *Redwharf*, or as it is locally called *Traeth Coch*. In the Early Perp. ch. of *Llaniestyn*, $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. S., is a curious font of the 12th cent., and a slab of the 14th supposed to commemorate St. Iestyn the tutelary saint. The inscription is almost defaced. From *Llaniestyn* the road runs over high ground to Beaumaris, which it enters from behind the woods of Baron Hill, leaving on rt. the small lake of *Bodgolehed*. This excursion will be from 12 to 13 m.]

[The eastern coast of Anglesea will be best visited in an excursion from Beaumaris to *Amlwch*, 17 or 18 m. 1 m. rt. is the *Union House*; $2\frac{1}{2}$ a road on l. leads to *Llandegfan*, while a second road continues to *Llansadwrn*. $3\frac{1}{2}$ m. at Trevor is a

cromlech on l. of the road, and on rt. at different intervals are *meini-heirion* or erect stones. Further on we arrive at *Mynydd Llwydiarth*, a rugged chain of hills skirting the N. promontory as far as Penmon. On the S. slope is the small Llyn of the same name.

5 m. *Pentraeth* (*Inn*: *Panton Arms*), a pretty village on the banks of a rivulet which empties itself, 1 m. N., into Redwharf Bay. *Plasgwyn* was for many years the residence of the Panton family, through whom it descended to Lord Vivian. It is now inhabited by W. Williams, Esq., brother of Sir Hugh Williams, of Bodelwyddan. The shores of Redwharf Bay are said to furnish some very rare varieties of shells. The cliffs are quarried for limestone, which is shipped at *Porthllongddu*, where is a small inn.

$1\frac{1}{2}$ m. l. of *Pentraeth* is *Llandyfnan*. The ch., rebuilt in 1847, contains over the S. door a sculpture of the Crucifixion. A large *maenhir* stands in the adjoining field. *Plas Llandyfnan*, the property of Mrs. Lewis, is tenanted by W. Parkins, Esq.

$6\frac{1}{2}$ m. l. is *Llanbedr-Goch*, and $8\frac{1}{2}$ rt. *Llanfair-mathafarn-eithaf*, the birthplace of Goronwy Owen, a celebrated Welsh poet. In the ch.-yard is a mutilated cross.

$9\frac{1}{2}$ m. l. *Llaneugrad*, in which parish are an ancient manor-house and park, with a curious Elizabethan pigeon-house. $10\frac{1}{2}$ m. rt. is the rude little ch. of *Llanallgo*, said to have been originally built in the 7th cent. It has, together with the neighbouring ch. of *Penrhos Llugwy*, attained a melancholy celebrity as having been the receptacle of the corpses of the ill-fated passengers of the 'Royal Charter' steam clipper, which was wrecked on the morning of 26th Oct. 1859. The ship struck on the sharp rocks of *Moelfre* about 3 A.M.,

and finally broke up between 8 and 9, when 465 persons lost their lives. In these 2 graveyards about 220 bodies were buried by the late Rev. Stephen Hughes the rector, and his brother the Rev. H. Hughes, of whose untiring devotion and self-denial during the fearful scenes they had to undergo it is impossible to speak in too high terms. It is in contemplation to add a chapel to the ch. in commemoration of the event, as also to erect a column on the rocks above the bay, about $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. N.E. of the ch.

There is a fine cromlech near Moelfre placed upon 7 supports.

At 13 m. the river *Dulas* is crossed, the mountain limestone rocks giving place to those of the *Llandeilo* formation. The igneous rocks of the *Parys* Mountain are a very conspicuous feature in the landscape.

14 m. (rt. $1\frac{1}{2}$ m.) is *Llysduelas*, the seat of Lady Dinorben. The grounds of this mansion slope down to the water's edge and command magnificent sea-views.

The restored ch. of *Llanwenllyfo* contains an elaborate brass of the 17th cent.

15 m. at *Pensarn* the road crosses the high ground between the *Parys* and *Llaneilian* Mountains, from whence it descends to 17 m. *Amlwch* (Rte. 9).]

ROUTE 9.

FROM GAERWEN JUNCTION TO AMLWCH, BY ANGLESEA CENTRAL RAILWAY.

Leaving the main line at Gaerwen Junct., the Anglesea Rly. cuts the island pretty nearly in half.

2 m. the *Holland Arms* Stat., close to which is the *Holland Arms*, a comfortable roadside inn; $\frac{1}{2}$ m. l. is *Plas Berw*, and 1 m. rt. the old Perp. ch. of *Llanvihangel Esgeiflog*. The rly. now crosses the wide and desolate marsh known as the *Malldraeth Marsh*, which, however, has been to a certain extent drained by the embankment of the tidal river running from *Llangefni* to the sea at *Malldraeth Bay*. The traveller will perceive from the few melancholy-looking collieries that a small strip of coal-measures occupies the E. side of this depression as far as the S. coast.

3 m. l. is the ch. of *Llangristiolus*, close to which the road to *Amlwch* branches off to the rt., and $4\frac{1}{2}$ m. the little town of *Llangefni* (stat.), with a population of about 1800 (*Inn*: Bull's Head). Its pleasant and central situation in the fertile vale of *Cefni* (which is here crossed by a bridge of 2 arches) has contributed to raise *Llangefni* from a very small hamlet, which it was within the last century, to a busy little market-town. The ch. contains nothing remarkable except a stone inscribed CYLIDORN IACIT SECUNDO. In the neighbourhood are the residences of *Peneraig* and *Hirdrefaig* (J. Priestley, Esq.). 1 m. from *Llangefni* is the old mansion of *Tregarnedd*, of the time of Henry VII., now a farm-house, on the site of the residence of *Ednyfed Vychan*, the friend and minister of *Llewelyn the Great* in the 13th cent. From him was descended *Owen Tudor* in a

direct line. Here was also born Sir Gruffydd Llwyd, the grandson of Ednyfed, who was knighted for bringing tidings to the king of the birth of his son at Caernarvon. He subsequently sustained a siege in his fortified mansion of Tregarnedd, but was eventually taken and executed at Rhyddlan Castle.

The ch. of *Hen Eglwys*, 2 m., rebuilt in 1845, contains an inscribed stone, and a good font of the 11th cent.

Distances.—Gaerwen, $4\frac{1}{2}$ m.; Llanerchymedd, 7; Penmynydd, 4.

The rly. now proceeds along the banks of the Cefni through an uninteresting country to

7 m. *Llangwilog* Stat., on rt. of which is *Tregaian*, remarkable for being the birthplace of William ap Howell ap Jorwerth, an "old Parr" of the 16th cent., who died at the age of 105, leaving behind him 43 children.

11 m. *Llanerchymedd* Stat. (*Inn*: Bull's Head).

The ch. of Llanerchymedd has been restored in good taste; its principal feature is the tower, which has a deep military-looking parapet, similar to those of the Pembrokeshire churches. The bell-gable is curiously formed in the E. parapet. The town itself is famous for nothing but its cattle fairs and Welsh snuff in humble imitation of Lundyfoot. [3 m. W. is the little Perp. single-aisled ch. of *Llanfihangel Tre'r Beirdd*. There is an early cross in the ch. yard. From hence it is from 4 to 5 m. to Moelfre Bay.]

12 m. rt. *Llwydiarth*, the beautifully wooded demesne of the Lloyd family. In the grounds is a famous Maen Chwyf or rocking stone, called locally Arthur's Quoit. To the l. of Rhosgoch Stat., $14\frac{1}{2}$ m., the rugged eminence of *Parys Mountain*, the highest hill in Anglesea, and famous for many years for the inex-

haustible stores of copper extracted from it. From the traces of old workings, and the fact that a cake of copper was discovered in the neighbourhood marked with a Roman stamp, it is probable that a search for minerals had been systematically entered into by that nation. The modern history of these mines, however, does not commence until 1762, when Sir Nicholas Bayley, father of the 1st Marquis of Anglesea, began to work them in conjunction with the Rev. E. Hughes, father of the late Lord Dinorben. For some time ill-success attended their efforts, and they were on the point of giving up the undertaking, when on a final experiment a vein of copper of enormous thickness and value was struck on the 2nd of March, 1768, which has ever since been the "saint's day" of the miners. From this vein the proprietors are said to have shipped 20,000 tons of copper annually. Subsequently to this period the work began to flag, and the returns dwindled down almost to nil; but mining speculation, which has been so rife within the last few years, has again been attracted to this mountain, from the 2 mines of which (the Mona and Parys mines) 9370 tons of ore were extracted in 1858, yielding 450 tons of fine copper. The Mona mine on the E. side of the mountain is worked by the trustees of the Anglesea property, and the Parys mine is in the hands of Lady Dinorben and Messrs. Taylor. The appearance of the excavations on the hill-side are very striking and even picturesque, from the extraordinary manner in which the copper has been extracted opencast as from a quarry. Besides the portion of ore derived by picking and blasting, a considerable quantity of copper is obtained from the water used in washing it, as well as from that which percolates through the beds of rock. The copper dissolved and suspended in it, in the state of a sulphate, is obtained

by steeping old iron in the liquor; the copper is quickly deposited in thick incrustations upon the iron, and in process of time dissolves it, so that a mass of copper takes the place of the iron. The copper falls to the bottom of the tanks in which the process is carried on, and, when a sufficient quantity is deposited, it is raked out in the form of green mud, dried, and then smelted. One ton of iron thus immersed will produce two of copper mud; and the metal obtained from it is more easily smelted, and is of a better quality, than that obtained from the solid sulphate of copper. In addition to copper, the mountain yields lead, silver-ore, zinc, alum, and sulphur.

From Parys a descent of $2\frac{1}{2}$ m. brings the tourist to $17\frac{1}{2}$ m. *Amlwch* (Rte. 8) (*Hotels*: Castle, and Dinorben Arms), a dirty though busy seaport of 7000 Inhab., all of whom are dependent in some way for support on the copper-mines. For the accommodation of the vessels engaged in exporting the copper, a harbour has been excavated in the solid rock, which will receive vessels of 600 tons burden. For their protection a breakwater was afterwards added, as a dangerous and heavy sea was driven into the harbour by northerly gales. A good portion of the ore is smelted here, causing the usual amount of unpleasant smoke and dirt always to be found in the vicinity of copper-works. There is a modern ch., built by the Parys Company, at an expense of 4000*l.*; also a very excellent library and reading-room.

Distances.—Holyhead, 20 m.; Llancrehymedd, $6\frac{1}{2}$; Menai Bridge, 18; Beaumaris, 17 (through Llanallgo); Llangefni, 13; Gaerwen, 17.

A steamer occasionally calls from Liverpool and Holyhead. Notwithstanding the unprepossessing appearance of Amlwch itself, a very pleasant little watering-place has

been set on foot at *Bull Bay*, 1 m. distant. A good hotel and bathing establishment have been erected, and doubtless the pure air and fine sands will ere long attract its regular quota of visitors.

[An excursion should be made from Amlwch to the village of *Llan-elian*, 2 m. to the E. Adjoining the ch. is St. Elian's Chapel, in which is an old wooden altar of the 15th cent. fixed against the wall. "During the wake all the people enter this box: and should they get in and out with ease, having turned round in it 3 times, they believe that they will live to the end of the year at least; but if their dimensions be too large, they give themselves up as lost."—*Nicholson*.

The *Well of Elian*, formerly much visited by pilgrims, is now nearly dried up. About $\frac{3}{4}$ m. from the village is *Point Ælianus*, commonly called Point Lynas, upon which are a light-house and a signal-station, which, previous to the new arrangement by electric telegraph, communicated by semaphore with Holyhead and Puffin Island. From Llanelian the tourist may proceed to Llanwenllwyfo (3 m.), and so on to Beaumaris.]

[Another excursion can be made on the W. to *Llanfechell* through *Cemmaes* (6 to 7 m.), the principal inducements being the beautiful coast-views, and an unusual number of early stones and cromlechs. About 1 m. N. of *Cemmaes*, where there are a small pier and wharf, is *Llanbadrig* ch., situated on a precipitous cliff overlooking the sea. It is said to have been founded by St. Patrick on his way to Ireland. Not far from the ch. is *Llan-llieiana*, where slight ruins of a chapel still exist. It is believed to have been the retreat of a recluse nun. *Llanfechell* is an important little village, owing to the quarrying in the parish of a peculiarly

rich ore of serpentine marble, known as verd antique, and considered by statuaries of high value. A cromlech and several meini-hirion are to be found in the neighbourhood.]

ROUTE 10.

CHESTER TO RUTHIN, BY MOLD.

For the first 3 m. the Chester and Holyhead Railway is travelled upon, the Mold line diverging to the l. opposite Sealand Mill. 5 m. *Broughton* Stat. On rt., close to the rly., is Broughton Hall, and 2 m. rt. the castle and wooded demesne of Harwarden (Sir Stephen Glynne) (Rte. 4). The level country soon begins to disappear, and the increasing gradients of the line show that we are fast approaching the hill districts.

9 m. HOPE JUNCT. [from whence a rly. runs to the mining district of Buckley (Rte. 4) to the N., and on the S. to Wrexham, passing

1½ m. rt. the village of *Hope*, formerly a place of some importance, to which Edward the Black Prince granted a charter. In the ch., close to which runs Offa's Dyke, is a monument to Sir John Trevor of Plasteg, Comptroller of the Navy in the time of Elizabeth.

2 m. *Caergwrle* Stat. (the camp of the giant Legion). Since the [N. Wales.]

time of Camden several remains have been brought to light, as a hypocaust, inscribed tiles, bricks, and large beds of iron scoriæ, at *Caer Estyn*, all which facts tend to the supposition that *Caergwrle* was a subsidiary garrison to the main post at Chester. A small portion only of the castle remains on a well-chosen site—an isolated rock with a precipitous escarpment. Prince Davydd, the brother of Llewelyn, obtained a grant of it from Edward I., but, on throwing off the yoke of allegiance and rebelling against the king, the castle was taken by siege and the grant recalled. Queen Eleanor is said to have lodged here on her way to *Caernarvon*, on which occasion the building took fire and was partially consumed. On the opposite eminence is the British post of *Caer Estyn*, beneath which the *Alyn* flows towards *Gresford* (Rte. 1) through a narrow and romantic ravine. Near the castle is *Brynnyorkin*, an old mansion said to have been built from designs by Inigo Jones.

3¼ m. *Cefn-y-bedd* Stat.

5¼ m. *Gwersyllt* Stat., close to which is *Gwersyllt Hall* (M. Humble, Esq.), occupying the site of an ancient house, burnt down in 1738, and noted for being the residence of Col. Shakerley, a distinguished royalist commander in the time of Charles I. He is said to have crossed the *Dec* in a tub, that he might make a short cut with a despatch to the king, who lay with his army at Rowton Heath. Near this house is a curious petrifying spring in the bed of the river.

7 m. *Wrexham* (Rte. 1)].

10½ m. *Padeswood* Stat., from whence a branch rly. for minerals, 2½ m. in length, runs to the *Coed Talwn* Ironworks on l.

1½ m. l. is *Hartsheath* (Wilson Jones, Esq.), once the residence of Col. Wardle, who gained such notoriety in the inquiry that was held on

the conduct of the Duke of York and Mrs. Clarke. On the opposite bank of the Alyn is *Plas-têg*, the seat of C. Trevor Roper, Esq., built also by Inigo Jones for Sir John Trevor in 1610.

11½ m. *Llong Stat.* On l. are the beautiful woods and mansion of *Leeswood Hall* (J. W. Eyton, Esq.). The number of collieries that now come into view sufficiently prove to the visitor that he has arrived at the very heart of the coal district of Flintshire, of which the flourishing little town of *Mold* (13 m.) is the capital (*Hotel: Black Lion*). It mainly consists of 4 long streets at right angles to each other, possessing no building of any interest save the ch., which has of late years been restored in such a manner as to make it one of the most perfect chs. in Wales. The main body was built in the latter part of the 15th cent., though the S. aisle and the tower were subsequently added. A chancel has been thrown out by Mr. Scott in his restoration, which cost 2000*l.* The stained glass is unusually rich and varied. Wilson the painter was buried here. There is also a monumental statue to Mr. Robert Davies of Llanerch, and a singular epitaph on the late Dr. Wym of Tower. At the top of the town is an eminence called the *Bailey Hill*, but in old records Mons Altus, Monthault, Mohaud, whence by further corruption comes the name of Mold; on the summit once stood a strong fortress, taken by storm by Owain Gwynedd in 1144, and again in 1322 by Sir Gruffydd Llwyd, who had risen in arms against the English. Not many years ago several skeletons were discovered here, supposed to be of those who had fallen in this affray. 1 m. to the W. is a spot called *Maes-y-garmon*, or the field of Germanus, the scene of another battle in the 5th cent., when the Britons under Germanus gained the "Victoria Alleluatica"

against the Saxons and Picts. "On the appearance of the enemy, the Christian band, having been previously instructed by their leader, dashed forward with a loud shout of Alleluia, which so frightened the Pagans, that they fled and were put to the rout with great slaughter." A stone column was erected here in 1736 to commemorate the event. Close by is *Rhual*, an old gable house of the 17th cent., belonging to the Griffith family, but now the residence of Col. Phillips. A shire-hall for the service of assizes and quarter sessions, which are held at Mold, was built some years ago in this town. 1½ m. S. of the town is the curious residence of *Tower*, the main feature of which, as its name implies, is a tall machicolated and embattled tower of the early part of the 15th cent., on one side of which is a dwelling-house of the time of Queen Anne. In the interior a circular turret staircase at the S.E. angle leads to the roof, and it has 3 doors within corresponding to the different stories. The battlements have loopholes of equal-armed crosses. This tower was noted for a tragical occurrence in 1465, when Reinalt ap Gryfydd ap Bleddyn hung Robert Bryne, the Mayor of Chester, from a staple in the wall, completing his crimes by fastening the men who had been sent to seize him inside the building, which he then set on fire. In Pen-nant's time this residence belonged to the Wynnes, from whom it descended to the Eyttons.

1 m. S. is *Nerquis Hall* (Rev. Lloyd Wynne), built by an ancestor in 1638. Large experiments in planting were successfully tried not far from hence by the late Dr. Thackeray of Chester, by whom many acres between this and Ruthin were covered with different kinds of trees, thus increasing the value of the ground to a great extent.

Rail to Chester, 13 m.

Distances.—Northop, 3 m.; Ruthin, 10; Caerwys, 10½; Denbigh, 17; Flint, 7; Cilcain, 4.

[A short route may be followed to Denbigh through Bodfari, traversing a thinly-inhabited district of considerable beauty.

1 m. rt. a road leads to Northop, 3 m., passing the demesne of *Soughton* (J. S. Banks, Esq.). The house is of curious architecture, altered on the model of a Portuguese convent by a former proprietor, a great traveller, part of whose voyages are related in the book called 'Memoirs of Giovanni Finati.'

On rt. is *Llwynegryn* (H. Raikes, Esq.). Near the cotton-mill the road crosses the Alyn, the course of which is followed for about 3 m. 2 m. rt. *Gwysaney* (P. Cooke, Esq.). On the opposite side of the stream is the once productive lead-mine of *Llyn-y-pandu*, from which a large quantity of ore has been extracted. 4 m. rt. is the rich mining district of *Halkin Mountain*, at the S. end of which is *Moel-y-gaer* Camp (Rte. 2). At *Hesp Alyn*, a little to the S., the Alyn, which makes a sudden turn upon itself, has an underground course for some distance, thus prettily alluded to by Drayton:—

"Then Alen makes approache—who, earnest
to be there,
For haste twice under earth her crystall
heade doth runne."

4½ m. l. *Ffynnon-Uleinir*, the flowing well, was remarkable in Camden's time for possessing a regular ebb and flow. The valley of the Churler, through which the road runs to Nannerch, is singularly romantic.

6 m. l. *Penbedw Hall* (W. Budicom, Esq.) contains in the grounds a circle and a tumulus. The house was formerly noted for its ancient library and collection of illuminated books. A grant was made of this estate to the Mostyn family by

Henry VIII. Not far from this place is the second division of the watershed which occurs in Flintshire, the waters falling one way to the Clwyd and the other to the Dee; the other has been mentioned (p. 17) near Bettisfield, where the division is between the Dee and the Severn. The Clwydian range of hills, which have bounded the horizon to the W., now rise up very steeply to the l. The point a little S.W. of Penbedw is *Moel Arthur*, a strong British post, defended by 2 ditches of great depth. This range is a marked feature in the physical geography of N. Wales, and runs nearly due N. and S. from Dyserth to Llandegla below Ruthin, without a single break occurring. Advantage was taken of this chain in early times by the Ordovices to protect themselves against the incursions of the Romans. On almost every one of the highest points a strongly fortified post was planted. They have been minutely investigated by W. W. Ffoulkes, Esq., whose interesting description may be consulted in the *Archæologia Cambrensis*.

7 m. *Nannerch*. The ch. contains a monument to Charlotte, wife of R. Mostyn, Esq., of Penbedw, and grand-daughter of Sir Kenelm Digby. 8½ m. rt. is the little mountain ch. of *Ysceiagog*. At 9½ m. rt. a road branches off 1 m. to *Caerwys*, a place formerly of importance, and the probable site of a Roman station. This impression is favoured by the arrangement of the streets, which cross each other at rt. angles, in a similar fashion to that of the Roman station at Caerwent in Monmouthshire. Caerwys was celebrated for being the cradle of *Eisteddfoddiau*, or festivals of bards and minstrels, which were held here by royal commissions of Edward I., Henry VIII., and Elizabeth. In later times it was the county town, the assizes being held here until their removal to Flint. With the excep-

tion of the scenery of the neighbourhood, which is diversified and pretty, Caerwys contains nothing of interest. Great cattle-fairs are periodically held here, well worth a visit from any tourist passing through the country, as he will see grouped together no inconsiderable number of the people of Wales intent on those pastoral pursuits which have distinguished them from time immemorial. He may also obtain in the neighbourhood his first sight of the peaks of the Caernarvonshire hills.

Distances.—Mold, 10½ m.; Holywell, 5; Denbigh, 7½.

10½ m. rt. *Maesmynan* (J. Webster, Esq.), at the entrance of a very romantic dingle.

At *Four Crosses*, 11 m., the road is carried over high ground to cross the Clwydian chain between the heights of Penymynydd and Moel-y-Parc.

13 m. *Bodfari*, supposed to have been the Varis of Richard of Cirencester, is a remarkably pleasant little fishing village overlooking the Clwyd at its junction with the Wheeler or Chwiler. Above it is *Moel-y-garn*, another early fortified post. From Bodfari it is 1 m. to the Dinorben Arms, and 4 to Denbigh.]

For the first 2 m. from Mold to Ruthin the country is bleak and barren, like most districts of the millstone grit formation. Every now and then magnificent views are gained of the Clwydian range, conspicuous in which is the lofty Moel Famman (1845 ft.), once rendered even more so by the Jubilee Column which crowned the summit, but which was blown down in the great storm of 1862, and now lies in ruins.

15½ m. a steep hill descends to the valley of the Alyn, which winds through a sweetly pretty glen. On l. is *Colomendy* (Capt. Bryan Cooke). At the bottom of the hill is an old-

fashioned roadside inn bearing the singular sign of the *Loggerheads*, and the inscription "We 3 Loggerheads be." Should the inquiring traveller seek to know why only 2 are visible on the signboard, the landlord will speedily let him into the secret as to who is the 3rd. This sign was painted by Wilson, a native of this county, who lies buried in Mold church.

Near Colomendy Lodge is *Maen Arthur*, a stone supposed to bear the impression of a horse's hoof.

16½ m. l. *Glanrafon* (H. Potts, Esq.), overlooking the steep and wooded banks of the Alyn. [From hence a road on rt. leads to *Cilcen* or *Cilcain*, 3 m., celebrated for its ch., which contains the most beautiful carved oak roof in the Principality. Tradition states that it came from Basingwerk Abbey; and from the manner in which the principals are fixed at unsymmetrical distances over the arches in the N. wall, there is no doubt that it was not constructed originally for Cilcain ch. The hammerbeams are terminated with exquisitely-carved figures of angels. During the restoration of the ch. a very curious mutilated font was discovered of unique design and ornamentation, as well as some ancient coffin-lids of the 13th cent.]

[A 2nd road from the same point leads by a bridle-road to Ruthin over the steep pass of Bwlch-pen-barras. The tourist who wishes to examine the fortified post of *Moel Ffenlli* (1600 ft.), or the *Jubilee Tower* on Moel Famman (1845 ft.), had best follow this route. This tower was erected with great ceremony in 1810 by the gentlemen of Flintshire to commemorate the 50th year of George III.'s reign. It was, previous to the storm which reduced it to ruins, a pyramidal column 150 ft. in height, and commands such a view as is rarely obtained, on account of the

comparative isolation of the range, and the immense extent of low ground which it overlooks. In clear weather it embraces from Cader Idris and Snowdon to Black Comb in Cumberland on the N., and southward as far as the Wrekin, while the whole length of the beautiful vale of Clwyd is spread like a map at one's feet.]

17 m. rt. the restored ch. of *Llanferres*, of which parish Dr. Davies, a celebrated Welsh scholar and translator, was rector in 1630. From hence the road winds up a considerable hill, crossing the chain between *Moel-y-gŵl* l., and *Moel Eithwrog* rt. Arrived at the summit, an exquisite view of the vale and the town of Ruthin is gained. 21 m. rt. underneath *Moel Ffienliare* *Llanbedr* Ch., and *Hall*, the beautiful residence of the late J. Jesse, Esq.

23 m. *Ruthin* (Rte. 11).

ROUTE 11.

FROM CORWEN TO RHYL, BY RUTHIN,
DENBIGH, AND ST. ASAPH.—RAIL.

From *Corwen* Junct. (Rte. 3) a line of rail runs up the vale of Clwyd to join the Chester and Holyhead line at Rhyl.

2½ m. *Gwyddelwern* Stat.

5 m. *Derwen* Stat. *Derwen* ch.-yard, which lies to the l., contains a good cross,

7 m. *Nantclwyd* Stat. and *Nantclwyd Hall*.

10 m. *Eyarth* Stat., at the end of a very picturesque little pass.

2 m. rt. *Llanfair Dyffryn Clwyd*. On l. is the quaint little ch. of *Efenechtyd*, containing a wooden font and a good roodloft, which is made use of as a singing-gallery. In the neighbourhood is *Pool Park*, the beautiful demesne of Lord Bagot, in which there are some interesting antiquities, viz. an inscribed stone pillar, and a stone chair locally called "the Queen's Chair." On the hills around the antiquarian enthusiast may inspect *Circles*, *Cyttiau*, and *Carneddau*, almost to repletion.

12 m. *Ruthin* (*Hotels*: *Lion*, comfortable; *Wynnstay Arms*; *Cross Foxes*), a pleasant, old-fashioned little town of some 3000 Inhab., situated on rising ground on the rt. bank of the Clwyd, which runs due N. in a somewhat sluggish stream. Although it is of great antiquity, its history is scanty. In 1400 Owain Glyndwr committed a raid, and, it being unfortunately fair-day, created terrible havoc by setting the town on fire. The *Castle* (F. R. West, Esq.) is a modern building, built, like its predecessor, of red sandstone, from which it obtained the name of *Castell Coch* (Red Castle). The old fortress is said to have been built in Edward I.'s reign, but after sustaining a siege by Gen. Mytton during the civil war was dismantled and left to decay. Churchyard thus describes it:—

"This castle stands on rocke much like red
bricke,
The dykes are cut with tooles through
stonie crag,
The towers are hye, the walles are large
and thicke,
The worke itself would shake a subject's
bagge,
If he were bent to buyld the like agayne."

Admission to view the mansion is given to strangers on entering their

names at the gate. The *Church* was anciently conventual, and was subsequently made collegiate by Lord Grey in 1310, who gave endowments for 7 priests, and erected the building as it stood before its restoration in 1855. The collegiate portion, however, viz. the choir, no longer exists. Adjoining the ch. are the buildings known as the Cloisters, which formerly connected it with the residence of the canons. They now form a dwelling-house for the warden of Ruthin (Rev. Bulkeley Jones). The most noticeable features in the interior of the ch. are the beautiful oak roof ornamented with "much curious workmanship," and the E. window of stained glass, given by the late J. Jesse, Esq., of Llanbedr Hall. The founder is stated to have been buried here, although no tombstone at present exists:—

"A church there is at Wrythen at this day,
Wherein Lord Gray, that once was Earle of
Kente,
In tombe of stone, amid the chauncel laye."

There is an effigy of Dean Goodman, a great benefactor to the town in the time of Queen Elizabeth. A lofty new spire in the style of the 14th cent. has added much to the external beauty of the building. Underneath the walls of the castle and on the banks of the river is an ancient *Mill* of the reign of Edward I. It contains some lancet windows and a red sandstone cross over the gable. The only other places in Ruthin worth mention are the assize-court and gaol, both modern buildings.

1 m. rt. is the small mother ch. of *Llanchydd*, restored by the munificence of G. Johnson, Esq., of Plas Llanrhydd. It contains an interesting monument to the Thelwall family. In the immediate neighbourhood are *Bathafarn Park*, *Pool Park* (a seat of Lord Bagot), and *Cefn Coch* (Gabriel Roberts, Esq.).

Distances.—Mold, 10 m.; Corwen,

12; Denbigh, 8; Cileain, 7; Wrexham, 16; Llandegla, 8.

[Several very beautiful excursions may be made to the S. of Ruthin into the "wild hills of Yale," and the broken but difficult ranges which intervene between the bend of the Clwyd and the valley of the Dee. Taking the most easterly of the 2 roads (that to Wrexham), the traveller passes on l. 2 m. the little ch. of *Llanfair Dyffryn Clwyd*, near which is *Plas Newydd* (Miss Baxter), and 3 m. Llanfair Chapel. The road now leaves the Clwyd to the rt., and winds along through a very picturesque ravine to the *Crown Inn* 9 m., though by a shorter road over the hill it is only 8 m. At 7 m. is a large tumulus known as *Tomen-y-rhodwy*, said to have been east up as a foundation for a fortress built by Owain Gwynedd in the 12th cent. On l. is the village of *Llandegla*, where there is a famous well, efficacious in cases of epilepsy—so much so, indeed, that the fits became known as St. Teela's disease. The cure was performed with many ceremonies. It was necessary that after ablution in the well the patient should offer fourpence, recite the Lord's Prayer, make a second votive offering of a cock, and finally enter the ch., make a pillow of the Bible and a blanket of the communion-cloth, and there sleep till break of day. By these means the disease was believed to have been transferred to the bird. In the neighbourhood is the ancient house of *Plas Bodidris*, an old residence of the Vaughans of Corsygedol. 2 m. N. on the banks of the Alyn, which rises in the parish of Llandegla, is *Gellygman* (Wilson Jones, Esq.), and 3 m. *Llanarmon in Yale*, the ch. of which, dedicated to the St. Germanus who led the Christians to victory at Mold (p. 74), contains the monumental effigy of Gruffydd ap Llewelyn ap Ynyr of Yale, at one time Abbot of Valle Crucis Abbey;

also a singular brazen chandelier supposed to have been brought from the same religious house. Close to the ch. is another mound known as *Tomen-y-fardre*. From the Crown the road winds round the base of *Cyrn-y-brain* (which rises to the height of 1857 ft.) to *Minera* and *Wrexham* (Rte. 1).

The rly. to Denbigh follows the l. bank of the Clwyd.

$\frac{1}{2}$ m. l. *Llanfwrrog*, in which parish the town of *Rutlin* is partly included. It is one of the usual double-bodied chs. of the district, but contains some rather singular arcades.]

$13\frac{1}{2}$ m. *Rhewl* Stat.

1 m. rt. is *Llanychan*; and under *Moel Ffeulli* and *Moel Famman* are the villages of *Llanbedr* and *Llangynhaval*, from whence there is a short bridle-road to *Cilcen*. A singular practice, now abolished, existed at *Llangynhaval* ch. The elders of the parish households sat in chairs before the communion-table, whilst the younger and less worthy branches had to perform their devotions from the pews in the rear. The Clwydian hills bound the view on rt. for the remainder of the route to *St. Asaph* and *Rhyl*, and, although as a whole they lack diversity, they are a beautiful feature in the landscape.

The rly. now skirts the *Clywedog*, a tributary of the Clwyd, having on l. *Bachymbyd*, a residence of Lord Bagot.

$15\frac{1}{2}$ m. *Llanrhaiadr* Stat., to l. of which are *Brynmorfydd* (N. Uniacke, Esq.), and *Llanrhaiadr Hall*, a pleasant manorhouse of the Price family. The ch. is rather a large building with portions of Perp. and some earlier work. It possesses a good timber roof and a celebrated E. window with an elaborately painted subject, the Root of Jesse. It is said to have been brought from Basingwerk, but from an examination of the latter ruins the Rev. H. L. Jones considers it in the highest degree

improbable. There is an amusing monument to Maurice Jones, Esq., in which he is depicted in fashionable morning-gown and peruke, and, according to the epitaph, founds his hope of salvation upon the grounds of having "fine parts both of body and mind and diverting conversation."

$17\frac{1}{2}$ m. *Ystrad* (Thomas Hughes, Esq.); and on the opposite bank of the Clwyd is *Glanywern*, the seat of J. E. Maddocks, Esq. On the hills above are the villages of *Llangwyfen* and *Llandyrnog*. For the last 2 m. of the way the castle and town of

Denbigh, 20 m. (*Hotels*: Crown, Bull), rise proudly in the distance to the l., nor is the pleasant impression caused by their appearance diminished by a nearer approach. Denbigh is situated on a steep hill, up which a broad well-built street runs to the summit, which is crowned by the ruins of the castle—

"And for thy seate and castle doe compare
With any one of Wales, what ere they are."

The *Castle*, which superseded an ancient British fort called *Castell Cled fryn yn Rhos*, or the Craggy Hill in Rhos, was built by Lacy, Earl of Lincoln, in the reign of Edward I. Previous to this, however, Prince Dafydd, Llewelyn's brother, commenced hostilities against the king from the "fort of *Dynbych*." It then passed alternately into the hands of the crown and several noble families, viz. Despencer in Edward II.'s time, the Earls of March and Salisbury during the reign of Edward III., and Dudley Earl of Leicester in that of Elizabeth.

In 1645, after the battle of Rowton Moor, King Charles stopped for a short time at the castle, which was soon afterwards besieged by Gen. Mytton, to whom the garrison surrendered. Its history came to a close during the reign of Charles II., who

ordered it to be made untenable by blasting it with gunpowder. "In its present state it belongs to the purely military rather than to the architectural antiquary; so very little of the detail is preserved, and so little of the ground-plan intelligible to the untechnical eye. But the small portion still remaining, a fragment of the gateway, shows that Denbigh must, when perfect, have been one of the castles richest in strictly architectural magnificence." Above the entrance, which is between 2 octagonal flanking towers, is a statue of the Earl of Lincoln, the founder, besides a series of niches which doubtless contained others. In the interior of the gateway is an octagonal building, which has been vaulted apparently from a central pillar. This beautiful Dec. entrance was until lately in such a state of decay that it threatened to disappear altogether, but it has been substantially repaired, together with the remainder of the walls and the ramparts. A small fee is demanded on entrance for the purpose of keeping the ruins in order.

Within the neatly trimmed area, grand Eisteddfoddiâu were held, one in 1828 and another in 1860, under the presidency of Sir W. W. Wynn. The views from the walls, particularly to the S. and S.E., are of the most lovely description, embracing the whole range of the Clwydian hills and the vale beneath, of which it may be truly said,—

"The beantie such, the breadth and length
likewise,
Makes glad the hart, and pleaseth eache
man's eyes."

Adjoining the castle area is a well-kept bowling-green, much patronized by the gentry of the town and neighbourhood. Close by, and in fact within the precincts of the castle, is the ch. of *Hilary*, once the garrison-chapel, a very plain building, curiously placed on rapidly sloping ground, so that room is obtained

for a school under the chancel. The only thing worth notice inside is an arcade of 5 elliptic arches. A little to the E. is a very large unfinished structure, intended for a ch. by its founder Dudley Earl of Leicester. The plan appears to consist of a central body 170 ft. in length, with aisles carried on the E. end. The Earl is said to have stopped its erection from dislike to the Welsh, and a sum of money, which was subsequently collected to finish it, was lent to the Earl of Essex, who proved a dishonest borrower. The *Burgesses' Tower* is a fine gateway with 2 round towers. Here municipal affairs were transacted, and in the Exchequer Tower, now destroyed, the baronial courts were held. Two modern institutions deserve attention—the *Lunatic Asylum* for N. Wales, a fine pile of building immediately under the castle, erected at a cost of 27,000l.; and a lately finished *College* for the reception of 30 female children, who are educated and maintained from moneys bequeathed in the reign of Henry VII., by a Mr. Howell, to the Drapers' Company. A similar institution is carried on at Llandaff, Glamorganshire. There is also in the town an old desecrated ch. known as the *Abbey*, formerly a house of Carmelite friars, founded by John Salisbury of Llewenny in 1289. 1 m. from Denbigh on rt. of the Ruthin road is the white tower of *Whitchurch*, or St. Marcellus, the parish ch. of the town. Internally it contains some good features of Late Perp.: "well-moulded 4 centre arches arise from octagonal pillars; above these is a cornice filled with a great variety of sculptured detail, and a hammer-beam roof arising from very large corbels." There are 2 brasses in memory of Richard Myddleton of Gwacynog and his family. He was father of Thomas Myddleton of Chirk (Rte. 1), and Sir Hugh Myddleton (6th son), so famous for his speculations in the lead-mines of Cardigan-

shire, and the New River scheme for bringing water to London. There are also an altar-tomb of the 16th cent. to Sir John Salusbury and wife, and a mural monument to the celebrated antiquary Humphry Llwyd, 1568. On the opposite bank of the Clwyd is Glanywern (J. E. Madocks, Esq.).

Distances.—Ruthin, 8 m.; Corwen, 20; Llanrwst, 22; Mold, 16; Cefn Ogo, 5; Llansannan, 8; Rhuddlan, 9; St. Asaph, 6; Bodfari, 4; Pentrevoelas, 18.

[Several beautiful excursions may be taken from Denbigh into the romantic and sequestered scenery to the W. and S.W., the scenery of the Vale of Aled and its tributary brooks. The road at the W. end of the town is taken, leading over the wild Hiraethrog hills to Cerrig-y-druidion, from which a bridle-road turns off at 5 m. rt. to the village of *Llansannan*, on the Aled (Rte. 5). 1 m. l. *Gwaenynog*, the seat of the Myddleton family, is associated with the memory of Dr. Johnson, who was an intimate friend of Dr. Myddleton, the then owner of the estate, who, to commemorate the great man's visit there in company with Mrs. Piozzi, proposed erecting an urn, to the great dislike of the Doctor, who philosophically observed, "I would as willingly see my friend, however benevolent and hospitable, quietly inurned." The monument, on which is a marble tablet, was however raised. Some lines written by Dr. Johnson are still extant over the door of a cottage.

Separated from the demesne of *Gwaenynog* by a small river is *Segrwyd* (Mrs. Mostyn). 2 m. rt. is *Eriviatt* (J. F. Ffoulkes, Esq.). 5 m. the pedestrian who does not wish to go on to Llansannan may turn to the l. to *Nantglyn*, a little village in a lovely situation. The ch. yard contains some splendid yews. He can return to Denbigh by another

way, making in all about 11 m. The excursion to *Cefn Ogo* will be described from St. Asaph.] The remainder of the route to Rhyl is completed by the Vale of Clwyd Rly., 11 m. in length. 21 m. Plas Clough and [1½ m. rt. *Llewenny*, the ancient seat of the Owen family. This mansion has several times been in the hands of different families, concerning the first of whom a singular story is extant. In the neighbourhood the celebrated Catherine Tudor, better known hereabouts as Catherine of Beren, held property as heiress to Tudor ap Robert Fychan. She married Sir John Salusbury of Llewenny, and on his death bestowed her hand on Sir Richard Clough, who took the opportunity of proposing to her as he gave her his arm at Sir John's funeral. Before the mournful ceremony was finished, another suitor, Mr. Morris Wynn, offered his hand and heart, and was informed by the fair widow that she had just engaged herself, but consoled him by assuring him that, in case anything happened to Sir Richard, Mr. Wynn should have the next chance. She ultimately became his wife, and, surviving even him, married for the 4th time Mr. Thelwall of Plas-y-ward. In Charles II.'s time Llewenny came into the possession of the Cottons, from whom it was purchased by the Hon. T. Fitzmaurice, uncle to the Marquis of Lansdowne. He is said, among other eccentricities, to have built a bleaching-factory, the cloth from which he used to take to Chester in a coach and six, and there sell it with his own hands.

1 m. beyond Llewenny, the Clwyd is crossed close to its junction with the Wheeler at *Pont Ruffyd*. A little further on is Bodfari 4 m. from Denbigh.] 22 m. l. is the village of *Henllan*, in the vicinity of which are several beautiful seats—*Pla Heaton* (Hon. Mrs. Heaton),

Garn (G. Griffiths, Esq.), and *Gallt-faenan* (Townshend Mainwaring, Esq., M.P.).

23 m. *Trefnant* Stat. A very handsome Dec. ch. has been built here from designs by Mr. Scott, by the munificence of Mrs. T. Mainwaring and Mrs. Mainwaring of Oteley Park near Ellesmere. It consists of a nave and aisles, chancel and chancel-aisle. [A road on rt. leads to 3 m. *Tremeirchion*, a village conspicuously placed on the slope of the Clwydian Hills. The ch. contains the figure of the poet "Davydd ddu," at one time vicar of this parish; also a tomb of Sir Robert Pounderling, governor of Dyserth Castle. There is a large Roman Catholic seminary here. A little below the village is *Brynbella*, built by, and for some time the residence of, Mrs. Piozzi.] The rly. now passes through a portion of *Llanerch Park* (Whitehall Dodd, Esq.), arriving at

25 m. the cathedral town of *Llanellwy* or *St. Asaph* (*Hotel*: Mostyn Arms, poor), charmingly placed on rising ground between the rivers Clwyd and Elwy, which, for a short distance previous to their junction, run parallel with each other. Both streams are here crossed by bridges. The city itself is nothing but a quiet and simple village of one street, with the cathedral as its sole object of interest. The see was founded about 560 by Kentigern Bishop of Glasgow, who, being driven from his own flock, retired hither and founded a monastery or college for 965 monks. On his recall home to Scotland he nominated a pious monk, Asa or Asaf, to be his successor. He, dying in 596, was buried in his own ch., which it is mentioned was first built of wood. In Henry I.'s reign it was destroyed, and the bishop reduced to such straits that he was forced to live upon alms. After being rebuilt it shared the same fate in Edward I.'s

time, 1282, during the bishopric of Anian II., when only a portion of the building was left standing. Like its sister of Bangor, it again sustained damage at the hands of Owain Glyndwr, which was repaired by Bishop Redman, and, although it suffered fresh insults at the hands of Cromwell, it has since then remained with pretty much the same features, though considerable modern additions have been made. In the long line of Bishops of St. Asaph are included many divines eminent for their learning and goodness, among whom may be mentioned Dr. William Morgan, the principal translator of the Welsh Bible in 1588, Dr. Isaac Barrow, and the pious Bishop Beveridge. The cathedral, which stands within a well-kept enclosure, is a cruciform ch., with a central tower remarkable for its plain but massive appearance, which gives to the building a degree of venerable dignity. "Compared not only with the great English cathedrals, but even with St. David's and Llandaff, Brecon and Llanthony, it at once sinks into insignificance; but regarded as an ordinary parish ch., it would at once be recognised as presenting a remarkable majesty of outline, on which, far more than on any special point of detail, its claim to attention is founded."—*E. A. F.* The oldest portions now remaining are the aisles and the nave, the Dec. work of Bishop Anian in the latter part of the 13th cent. The transepts, nave, and lantern arches are of very plain and simple architecture, and were built a little later on. The clerestory windows on the N. were destroyed in 1815. The choir was rebuilt in 1770. The whole of the building inside and out is remarkable for its extreme neatness, though the interior presents several architectural features which might be remedied, such as the taking down of the screen and filling the nave with open seats, as suggested by Mr. Freeman in the 'Archæologia.'

There is an ancient monument of a bishop temp. Edward I., and in the S. transept a full-length figure of Dean Shipley. In the N. transept is a monument to Bishop Luxmoore, also Bishops Howell and Barrow, and Mrs. Hemans, who during her lifetime was much associated with St. Asaph. The organ by Hill is the best in the principality next to that of Llandaff; some of the pipes, from want of room, are placed away from it in one of the transepts. Daily service is held here, and full cathedral service on Sundays, a source of great attraction to visitors from Rhyl, for whose benefit an omnibus generally runs during the summer months. Opposite the cathedral is the *Deanery* (Very Rev. R. Bonnor), and at the bottom of the hill, on the banks of the Elwy, is the *Palace* (Right Rev. Dr. Short), rebuilt in part by the late Bishop Cary. During the Parliamentary wars the Bishop's residence was inhabited by the postmaster, who carried his desecration still further, by turning the font of the cathedral into a pig-trough, and stalling calves in the bishop's throne. The parish ch. is a plain little Late Perp. building in the lower part of the town.

Distances.—Denbigh, 5 m.; Rhyl, 6; Rhuddlan, 3; Cefn Caves, 3; Dyserth, 5½; Bodelwyddan, 3; Abergele, 7.

[An extremely pretty excursion of about 6 m. may be made to Cefn Caves, going past *Cefn*, the seat of Col. Wynn, M.P., and returning by Ffynnon-y-Capel and the turnpike-road. The view from the caves is one of the most charming in Wales. A lofty mountain limestone escarpment fringed with birches projects at a great height above the Elwy, which flows through a beautiful wooded ravine, winding round the promontory.

Below, and on the opposite bank of the river, is *Dolben*, the roman-

tically situated residence of Major Hutton. The face of the cliffs is terraced out in innumerable zigzag walks leading to the caves, entrance to which can be obtained by application to a cottager at the back of Cefn. Like many caverns in the carboniferous formation, they presented many features of interest in the discovery of large quantities of fossil bones of extinct animals. The pedestrian with whom time is no object may follow the windings of the Elwy through scenery which will repay him to Llanfair-talhaïarn, and from thence strike on to Bettws Abergele and Abergele (Rte. 5). Descending from the Cefn rocks and following the l. bank of the stream, the tourist in another mile will find a holy well called *Ffynnonfair*. It is in a field close to the river, and almost overgrown with ivy. The elegant building which covers in the well is apparently designed after the one at Holywell (Rte. 4). The earlier portion or S. arm of the cross is about the early part of the 15th cent., while the rest is of Late Perp. The well is about 7½ ft. square, with 3 of the sides formed into angles, from each point of which formerly sprang a shaft. Although the building is now ruined, the spring bubbles up as merrily as of yore, and it is a pity that the owner of the estate does not interfere to put it into something like order and bring it again into use. Previous to its spoliation this well was used for baptismal purposes, and had a less enviable notoriety for clandestine marriages. In the woods at the back is *Wigfair* (Mrs. Howard). The high road from Denbigh is re-joined close by *Pont-yr-allt-goch*, where the Elwy is crossed by a handsome bridge of 1 arch.] Besides the residences above mentioned, there are several others in the neighbourhood, as *Bryn Elwy* (Capt. Thomas), *Bryn Asaph* (Miss Luxmoore), *Bronwylfa* (Col. Browne), and *Rhullon* (Rev. Hicks Owen), both formerly resi-

dences of Mrs. Hemans, and *Plas Coch* (late J. Sisson, Esq.).

[The road to Abergele 7 m. passes $2\frac{1}{2}$ m. *Bodelwyddan*, the castellated house of Sir Hugh Williams, Bart. The *Church* in the park, together with schools and parsonage, was erected by the munificence of the Dowager Lady Willoughby De Broke, as a memorial to her husband, 1856-61. It is a cruciform Dec. ch. of the 14th cent., consisting of nave, transept, N. and S. aisles, chancel, and a tower 200 ft. high, crowned with an octagonal spire, pierced with traceried windows. From its position on rising ground overlooking the vale, the building is a conspicuous feature in the neighbourhood. The interior is remarkably beautiful, and has been fitted up with a lavish profusion of rich carving, marbles, and stained glass, of which the E. window is the most exquisite, forming together with the others in the chancel a series of events in the life of our Lord. The building was commenced in 1856, and opened for public worship in Aug. 1860, at an expense of 60,000*l.* The estate of *Bodelwyddan* formerly belonged to Sir W. Williams, Speaker of the House of Commons in the latter part of Charles II.'s reign.

$3\frac{1}{2}$ m. rt. *Kinnel*, the seat of R. H. Hughes, Esq., whose predecessor, Col. Hughes, was created Lord Dinorben. 5 m. *St. George*, to l. of which on the eminence of *Pare-y-meirch* is a fortified post, said to have been occupied by Owen Gwynedd on his retreat from Henry II.

7 m. *Abergele*. Rte. 4.]

$27\frac{1}{2}$ m. *Rhuddlan* Stat. The castle occupies a striking position on the opposite bank of the Clwyd, and from its appearance raises expectations which are apt to be disappointed on a nearer inspection, for, although of

great size and strength, it is in reality a mere shell. It is a red sandstone building of quadrangular shape, having at two opposite angles a round tower, while the other two are occupied by gateways flanked by two towers each. Part of the fosse is still in good condition, as well as a square bastion that defended the escarpment towards the river. Robert de Rhuddlan, lord of this place, under Hugh Lupus, at the time of Domesday-book, was the founder of the castle. He was a great oppressor of the Welsh, but was ultimately killed in a skirmish with them under the Orme's Head, and buried, as Ordericus Vitalis tells us, in the abbey of St. Werburgh, at Chester. It was subsequently rebuilt by Henry II. in 1157. It was on several occasions the temporary residence of royal personages: of Richard II. when on his way to Flint as a prisoner: also of Edward I., who issued from hence the royal edict called the Statute of Rhuddlan. No Parliament was ever held here, as is supposed, and indeed narrated on an inscription let into an old wall in the village. From its position, it sustained its full share of border warfare, a curious instance of which happened when Earl Randal was besieged by the Welsh, and rescued by Dutton and his motley army. For this good deed Dutton was rewarded by the unenviable title of "*Magisterium omnium peccatorum et meretricum totius Cæstreshire.*"

On the road to St. Asaph there are slight traces remaining of a *priory* founded in the 13th cent. A figure of a knight of that period is to be seen on one of the walls of an adjacent farmhouse. The ch. is situated close to the bridge. It is a rude building with a rather massive tower and a large Dec. window, and contains an effigy of a recumbent figure in the S. aisle, besides 2 incised coffin slabs and a modern monument to Dean Shipley. The

village itself, though formerly an important borough, is now a decayed little place of only one street. A portion of the house in which Edward I.'s parliament is erroneously said to have been held still remains. An inscription, written by a Dean of St. Asaph, calls attention to the fact.

The marsh of *Morfa Rhuddlan*, on the other side of the river, is celebrated in Welsh annals as being the scene of a dreadful battle in 795 between the Welsh under Caradoc and the Saxons under Offa King of Mercia. The former were routed with great slaughter, their leader slain, and the prisoners all put to death, a national disaster which has been commemorated in the plaintive Welsh air of *Morfa Rhuddlan* :—

"And Rhuddlan saw, beneath o'erwhelming foes,
The prince and nobles of her country slain."

2½ m. rt. is Dyserth Castle (Rte. 4), and at the foot of the hill *Bodryddan*, the ancient seat of Shipley Conway, Esq. On the l. bank of the Elwy, close to its junction with the Clwyd, is *Pengwern*, a seat of the Mostyn family, which was unfortunately burnt down in the spring of 1864. The Voryd, or tidal part of the Clwyd river, which is crossed at Rhuddlan by a bridge built in 1595 by Bishop Hughes, is navigable from hence to its mouth. The rly. is carried over a dead level to 31 m. *Rhyl* (Rte. 4), there to effect a junction with the Holyhead and Chester line.

ROUTE 12.

FROM CONWAY TO BANGOR, BY
LLANRWST, BETTWS-Y-COED, AND
CAPEL CURIG.

A coach leaves Bettws-y-coed rly. stat. for Bangor. A primitive little steamer sails from Conway, "weather permitting," as far as *Trefriw*, 2½ m. short of Llanrwst; and if the traveller can spare a morning, it is by no means an unpleasant way of viewing the scenery on both sides of the river. The road usually taken by carriages runs on the l. bank; but there is another on the rt. bank, which is more picturesque, but is not convenient for visiting the waterfalls. The rly. keeps this side, calling at *Glan Conway* and *Tal-y-cefn* stations.

Leaving Conway beneath the town walls and the Chester and Holyhead Rly., a fine view is gained of the town and castle as we ascend the opposite hill.

½ m. rt. is the secluded village and ch. of *Gyffin*, the latter containing a good E. E. font and doorway.

For the first 2 m. the road is uninteresting, as the views of the river and vale are shut out by considerable high ground. [Nearly opposite the mansion of *Benarth*, on the bank of the river, is the village of *Llansant-fraid Glan Conway*, in which parish there is a cromlech near *Hendre-waelod* (Mrs. Green). 4 m. l. the road gradually approaches the river near the ferry of *Tal-y-cafn*. On the opposite bank is *Bodnod*, the seat of W. Hanmer, Esq.]

4½ m. l. *Caerhun* (H. D. Griffiths, Esq.), whose grounds contain the remains of the important station of *Conovium*, distant in the Itinerary 19 m. from *Varis* (Bodfari, Rte. 10) and 24 m. from *Segontium* (Caernarvon,

Rte. 14). The entrance gate, nearly opposite the mountain road to Aber, leads to the ch., which stands on the site of the Roman stat. The ruins are a little behind the ch.-yard towards the river. There is an enormous holly in this ch.-yard, the stem of which is about 9 ft. in circumference. From hence a Roman road on rt. may be traced over the hills through the solitary pass of *Bwlch-y-ddenjaen* to Aber. The antiquary will observe in its course many erect stones (*meini-heirion*) and a fine cromlech 1 m. from Ro.

Several interesting remains have been at times excavated at Caerhun, such as bricks, urns, pottery, vases, and a curious circular shield. Foundations of a Roman villa were also laid open. Leaving the village of *Llanbedr* to rt., and crossing the *Dulyn*, which rises under Carnedd Llewelyn in 2 small tarns, *Llyn Dulyn* and *Melynllyn*, the road crosses at $6\frac{1}{2}$ m. the impetuous *Afon Porthlwyd*. The traveller should halt, and visit waterfalls on this and the *Afon ddu* river, a little further on. They are both worth seeing after rain; indeed the former is considered by some to be the finest cataract in North Wales, and is thus described by Bingley:—"From the upper part, 2 streams, one of them much the broadest, divided at some distance from each other. The range of rock down which the water was thrown was very wide and extremely rude, being formed in horizontal ledges into deep clefts and enormous chasms. The streams united a little above the middle of the fall; they rushed from thence in foam over the rocks, and from the deep shelvings in many places the water was entirely hidden from me below." By following a path on the l. bank of the stream a good bridle-road is gained leading up to *Llyn Eigiau* and some slate-quarries at the head of the glen—in fact, just underneath Carnedd Llewelyn (p. 90). From Talybont or Porth-

lwyd to the summit of the mountain (3469 ft.) is a difficult 8 m. The *Afon ddu* river, which is crossed at *Dolgarrog* ($7\frac{1}{2}$ m.), rises in *Llyn Cwlyd*, a long, narrow sheet of water about 4 m. up the mountains. The waterfall on this river is inferior to the other. On the other side of the river is the demesne of *The Abbey*, belonging to Lord Newborough, who owns some of the finest estates in N. Wales. Nothing is now left of *Maenant Abbey*, a religious house built by Edward I. for the purpose of transferring hither the Cistercian Abbey of Conway, which he thought might breed mischief within the walls.

$9\frac{1}{2}$ m. (*Trefriw* pronounced locally Trevor: *Im*, Bellevue), a small river-port, carrying on a trade in timber and slate. There are also one or two lead-mines in the vicinity, and a medicinal spring attracts a few visitors.

The Conway here becomes tidal, and steamers ply hither according to the state of the water.

On the opposite bank of the river are *Belmont* (Miss Kytlin) and *Plas Madoc* (H. Beaver Roberts, Esq.). There is a third very pretty little waterfall on the river here, which is formed by two streams issuing from *Llyn Crafnant* and *Llyn Geirionydd*, $2\frac{1}{2}$ m. This latter lake is rendered classical by having been the abode of Taliesin, the father of Welsh poets. He is said to have been found on the shore of the lake, like Moses in the bulrushes, by a son of Gwyddno Garanhir in the 6th centy.; but other localities, such as Aberystwith and the Cardiganshire coast, are so mixed up with the story that we cannot attach much belief to it. It is very likely that he lived here, as he refers to *Llyn Geirionydd* in one of his poems. A monument was erected by Lord Willoughby d'Eresby to notify the place of Taliesin's residence; but

even this is said to be put up on the wrong side of the lake. To complicate the error, the Ordnance Surveyors have named it Bedd Taliesin, or the grave of Taliesin; so that the honour of his birth, life, and death is respectively claimed for this locality. The pedestrian need not descend again to Trefriw, but may make his way by the rude village of *Llanrhwychwyn* and through the wood of Gwydir to 12 m. *Llanrwst* (*Hotels*: Victoria, excellent; the Eagles), a small market-town, so happily placed as always to attract a large number of visitors. And yet the Vale of Conway, as far as *Llanrwst*, is by no means grand, but rather the contrary, as far as the l. bank is concerned; but it has been described in such glowing terms by many tourists that the expectation is generally disappointed. It takes rank, however, as one of the quietly beautiful valleys of N. Wales, which whet the appetite for the grander beauties to come. The Conway is crossed by a steep, inconvenient bridge, which was the work of Inigo Jones, and is said to vibrate when pushed in a particular manner. "A man is generally at hand to ask strangers if they wish to have a shake, and for bumping his back against the wall he expects to be rewarded by the wondering visitor." (*Black.*) The town possesses 2 chs., a modern one, known as the English ch., and an older and more interesting building of Perp. date, with a chapel attached to it, built by Inigo Jones in 1633, and called the Gwydir Chapel. In the interior of this latter are many curious monuments and some good carving. The visitor should notice the carved doorway and oak panelling, as well as the reading-desk and roodloft, said to have been brought from the Abbey of Maenant at its dissolution. Among the monuments are the stone coffin of Llewelyn ap Iorwerth, son-in-law of King John of England; the stone effigy of Howell Coetmore ap Gruf-

fydd Vychan ap Dafyd (these 2 last are on the floor); an engraving on brass of Sarah Wynn (17th centy.), and of other members of the Wynn family, who were formerly possessors of Gwydir. There is also a very singular pyramidal variegated monument, with enormous heads of angels. This chapel is not used for service, but is, probably, the most singular repository of monuments in the kingdom. In the body of the ch. are some panelling on a pew by the vestry, and a curious stone font. An inscription on an individual who was schoolmaster, lecturer, and rector successively is worthy of record:—

"Prope jacet corpus Griffini Lloyd de Brynniog, olim Ludimagistri indigni Llanrwstiensis, nuper Lectuarii indignioris et Rectoris indignissimi, Doegensis sepult. Decimo quinto Die Martii, Ann. Dom. 1719.

"Nil de defuncto, dic, scribe
Putave malignè."

The patron saint of the ch. is St. Grwst, *alias* Rhystyd or Restitutus. $\frac{1}{2}$ m. from the town, across the bridge, is *Gwydir* House, the seat of Lord Willoughby d'Eresby. The grounds and house are open to visitors. A small part of the mansion built by Sir John Wynn in 1555 still exists, the rest being a modern addition of 1816. In the interior are some fine old-fashioned rooms, with ancient furniture. Sir John also built another house on the rocks above, all of which is demolished save the chapel. The Wynns, who subsequently became the Wynns of Wynnstay (Rte. 1), held this property till the latter part of the 17th centy., when the heiress of Sir Richard Wynn married the Marquis of Lindsay, and thus brought it into the family of Ancaster. The Baroness Willoughby, daughter of the Duke, married Sir Peter Burrell, afterwards 1st Lord Gwydir, and the estate has since remained in the present family of Gwydir. The views from the rocks above and the various parts of the grounds are very charming. There are also

a waterfall and a picturesque lake. The botanist will glean many specimens from the woods, and, amongst others, *Vaccinium uliginosum*, *Thlaspi alpestre*, *Centunculus minimus*, &c.

Conveyances from Llanrwst.—Rail to Conway, 12 m., and Bettws-y-coed, 4.

Distances.—Trefriw, $2\frac{1}{2}$ m.; Caerhun, $7\frac{1}{2}$; Llyn Geirionydd, 4; Capel Curig, 10; Pentrevoelas, 11; Rhaiadr Wenol, $6\frac{1}{2}$; Gwytherin, 6; Bangor, 25.

[An excursion may be made by a pedestrian through a broken and romantic country to Gwytherin, and from thence by the valleys on the Elwy and Aled to St. Asaph and Denbigh (Rtes. 5, 11).]

The road usually taken to Bettws-y-coed and Pentrevoelas is on the rt. bank. The scenery rapidly improves in character, the vale becoming much narrower, and the woods on either side feathering down nearly to the water's edge. [At the turnpike a road on l. leads through a mountainous district of the Hiraethrog Hills to Pentrevoelas 8 m., passing, 1 m., *Cyffidy* (R. O. Davies, Esq.).]

14 m. l. are the adjoining mansions of *Hendre* and *Oaklands* (H. Blackwall, Esq.). 16 m. a scene of rare beauty opens at the *Waterloo Bridge*, across which the road to Bangor is carried, after effecting a junction with the great Holyhead road. The bridge is so called because built in 1815, and is of cast-iron of a single bold arch 109 ft. in span. Close by is Beaver Grove (C. Spooner, Esq.).

17 m. *Bettws-y-coed*, or the Station in the Wood (*Inns*: Royal Oak, Waterloo), is a deservedly favourite rendezvous for all classes of tourists, artist and angler in particular. It is a very small village, deliciously situated in the angle formed by the meeting of the Llugwy with the

Conway. Bounded on all sides by steep and wooded hills, which rise almost directly from the banks of the river, it seems altogether shut out from the world. The Llugwy is crossed at *Pont-y-pair* by a rude bridge of 5 arches, the piers of which are set on rocks in the bed of the stream—a favourite study for painters, and one which has been transferred to paper and canvas oftener than any scene in Wales. "Here the river, forming a tiny reach around a fir-covered islet, breaks suddenly down the fractured rocks, and then, diving under the chasin spanned by the centre arch of the bridge, all festooned with ivy, assumes a totally different, but not less exquisite, phase of expression, as it hurries down to join the Conway in the vale below." (*Roscoe*.) The ch. is a primitive little building on the bank of the Conway. It contains an effigy of Gruffydd ap Davydd Coch, a natural son of Davydd, brother of Llewelyn.

Distances.—Llanrwst, 4 m.; Capel Curig, 6; Rhaiadr Wenol, $2\frac{1}{2}$; Dolwyddelan, $7\frac{1}{4}$; Pentrevoelas, 7; Penmachno, $4\frac{1}{2}$; Cerrig-y-druidion, $12\frac{1}{2}$; Corwen, $22\frac{1}{2}$; Pont-y-glyn, $16\frac{1}{2}$.

[Bettws-y-coed will be found an admirable central station from whence to explore the eastern district of Snowdonia and the wild valleys of the Lledr and the Machno.

To reach the Lledr and follow the valley up to Dolwyddelan, take the road on the opposite side of the stream to the Pentrevoelas road, as far as the junction of the Lledr with the Conway, nearly 2 m.

From hence, and all the way up the glen, *Moel Siabod* is a very grand feature in the scenery. From the summit of Moel Siabod it is easy to descend in a S.E. direction to Dolwyddelan. From Pont Lledr it is $4\frac{1}{2}$ m. of wild and lovely valley to

Dolwyddelan, one of the rudest and most primitive of Welsh villages (Rte.

20) (*Inn*: Elen's Castle, comfortable).

1 m. further is *Dolwyddelan Castle*, finely placed on a bold projecting steep overlooking the pass. Of the two towers which existed in Pennant's time, only one remains—of great thickness of wall—with a small portion of the other. This castle was formerly the residence of Iorwerth Drwyndwn (the Broken Nose), father of Llewelyn the Great, who was born here. The claims of Iorwerth to the throne of Wales were disallowed in consequence of his deformity. In the time of Henry VII. this district was torn to pieces by the quarrels of rival families and clans. "To such lengths did they carry their animosity, that Meredydd ap Ievan is stated to have purchased the castle as a place of defence within which to retreat from the violence of his own relations, although the immediate vicinity was beset with bands of robbers and outlaws. His predecessor, Hoel ap Evan, was a noted robber-chief, yet Meredydd did not hesitate to take possession of his new castle. 'For I had rather,' he exclaimed, 'fight with outlaws and thieves than with my own blood and kindred. If I continue in my own house at Eflonedd, I must either kill my own relations or be killed by them.'" (*Roscoe*.) Meredydd built the present ch. of Dolwyddelan, and a house called *Penamnaen* in the cwm of the same name. The scenery at Dolwyddelan is remarkably fine, from its being so entirely surrounded by mountains, conspicuous amongst which the enormous mass of *Moel Siabod* towers high in the air. At the very head of the valley the Lledr takes its rise in the recesses of Yr Arddu and Moel Lledr, shoulders of that great "mob of mountains" of which Moelwyn is the chief. Several mountain-tracks may be taken by the pedestrian in company with his map and compass—to Nant Gwynant and

from thence to Beddgelert, about 12 m.; to the slate-quarries of Ffestiniog, between 4 and 5 m.; or from the village of Dolwyddelan under the E. escarpment of Moel Siabod to Capel Curig, 5 m. The valley of the Lledr is crossed at the village by the *Sarn Helen*, a Roman road which traversed this district, probably between Segontium and Heriri Mons. It may be plainly traced ascending the deep curve of Penamnaen, and crossing the hills to the S.]

The road from Bettws-y-coed to Capel Curig continues closely along the rt. bank of the Llugwy to *Rhaiadr-y-Wenol*, or Swallow Fall, 19 m. The coach pulls up here that the passengers may run down the walks and visit the Fall. After rainy weather this may be considered the finest cataract in Wales for breadth and volume, though not in height. "It presents the irregular aspect of a hill of rocks springing up from the bed of the river, which produces the effect of a bold break-water, giving redoubled force to the stream, which divides and foams down in wild leaps till it reaches its black and caverned bed." (*Roscoe*.) The water privilege is kept under lock and key, and is to be viewed at the cost of a small fee to the gate-keeper. 19 $\frac{3}{4}$ m. the Llugwy is crossed by a picturesque bridge. The road, which, since leaving Bettws-y-coed, has been gradually rising, now keeps the l. bank of the stream to *Capel Curig*, 22 $\frac{1}{2}$ m. (Rte. 17), where the comfortable inn forms a welcome oasis in the solemn desert of mountains that surrounds it on every side. The village itself consists of a primitive little ch., 2 or 3 houses near it, and the inn, which would probably contain in its rambling passages the whole parish, as far as dwellings go. It is, during the season, generally full of tourists, who find it a most convenient starting-point for the mountain excursions. The view up the

vale, embracing the Mymbyr Lakes and the peaks of Snowdon, is not to be surpassed in Wales, though it is of a peculiarly severe and melancholy kind. With this tempting approach into the very heart of the mountain district we have not at present to deal, as the road to Bangor turns abruptly to the N.W. The excursions in the neighbourhood of Capel Curig are endless, and no better head-quarters could be fixed upon for a protracted stay in Snowdonia, and this more particularly if the tourist is a pedestrian, ready and willing for collar-work.

Distances.—Bettws-y-coed, 6 m. ; Rhaiadr Wenol, $3\frac{3}{4}$; Dolwyddelan, 6 ; Llanrwst, 10 ; Llanberis, 10 ; Penygwryd, 4 ; Snowdon, 9 ; Glyder, 5 ; Moel Siabod, $3\frac{1}{2}$; Beddgelert, 12 ; Llyn Ogwen, 4 ; Bethesda, 9 ; Bangor, $14\frac{1}{2}$.

On regaining the Holyhead road there is a steep and continued ascent up to 26 m., where the watershed is crossed dividing the Llugwy from the Ogwen. The traveller who has left the Snowdon valley behind with regretful feelings will soon cease to remember it in the magnificent scenery that is now opening before him ; for, with the exception of the Llanberis pass, he is now entering the finest gorge in the whole country.

On the rt. is the enormous block of mountain of which Carneddau Davydd and Llewelyn are the centres, while on the l. a still more savage and precipitous chain intervening between Llyn Ogwen and Llanberis seems as if about to close over the pass and entirely to block it up. 1 m. rt. from Capel Curig a track crosses the shoulders of the hill to Llyn Cwlad. Thence follow the Afon Ddu to Dolgarrog and the Conway (p. 86).

25 m. rt. (or 37 as marked on the Ordnance map), at a farm-house called Tal-y-brach, or else at 26 m., where the Llugwy is crossed, the

ascent may be made to *Carnedd Davydd* or *Carnedd Llewelyn*—a steep and fatiguing pull, but one that is amply repaid by the splendid views. The Llugwy must be followed up to Glan Llugwy, from whence strike up the shoulder of Craig Llugwy, and keep along the ridge until it divides. The one to l. is *Cefn-ysgoliau-duon*, or the ridge of the Black Ladders, and on rt. is *Bwlch-cyfric-drym*, a narrow ledge, $\frac{3}{4}$ m. long, which ends at the summit of Carnedd Llewelyn. On each side are tremendous abysses, the one to the E. containing a tarn, *Ffymon Llugwy*. The summit, which is 3469 ft. in height, is said to have been marked by a fortified camp of Llewelyn, “who from this eminence beheld Bangor in flames at the hands of the army of King John, to whom he sent his daughter Joan with terms of peace.”—*Lloyd*. But little traces are left of it, though the Ordnance surveyors have left a more permanent memorial in the shape of an enormous cairn. Probably, for extent, the view is equal to any in Wales, particularly to the N., in which Anglesea and the coast appear at one's feet. On the S. the most prominent points are the Glyders, the strangely-indented head of Trifaen, and the Snowdon range behind them. Aber lies to the N.W., and a descent can be made in 6 or 7 m. The llyns under Cefn-yr-Arrayg to the N.E. are Melynlyn and Llyn Dulyn, which supply rivulets to the Conway. The botanist will find *Ajuga genevensis* (Alpina). Should the tourist not wish to descend to Aber, he can retrace his steps to the Black Ladders and visit Carnedd Davydd (3427 ft.), below which there is a deep semicircular cwm, containing the little Ffymon-y-Lloer. From Braich-ddu there is a practicable descent, though very steep, to the shores of Llyn Ogwen, where it receives the Afon Lloer, exactly opposite the Trifaen. Or a good descent may be made directly into the

valley of the Afon Lloer, joining the road about $3\frac{1}{2}$ m. from Capel Curig. This is shorter than descending by Braich-ddu or returning by the Black Ladders to Craig Llugwy. The geologist should look out for evidences of iceberg or glacier action on the flanks of the mountain. "The higher striations on the flanks of Carnedd Davydd may have been produced by icebergs during the submersion of the country, and at a time when drift was deposited in the valley of the Llugwy, and probably also in Nant Ffrancon. But at a later date, after re-elevation, this drift has been ploughed out of Nant Ffrancon by a large glacier, while it still remains in the valley of the Llugwy."—*Ramsay*.

Llyn Ogwen is a narrow sheet of water nearly 1 m. in length, occupying the whole of the pass between *Braich-ddu*, a shoulder of Carnedd Davydd, on the N., and the Trifaen and Glyder Fach on the S. The Holyhead road is carried along the S. margin. It is a great lake for anglers, though (perhaps from poaching) it is by no means as good as it used to be. Shore fishing is nearly useless; therefore the angler must hire a boat, which, as they belong to one or two hotels—Capel Curig and the Victoria, at Bethesda—practically puts the fishing into the hands of the landlords, and generally entails, besides the expense of a boat, the necessity of a car and driver. The lake belongs to Col. Pennant, of Penrhyn Castle, and is perfectly open to all anglers. The trout are large, of bright yellow colour, and look red when cooked. "In former days, before the increase of mining population, the sport in this lake must have been first-rate, as the trout ran from $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. to 1 lb., or even larger. Now, during the summer months, there are seldom less than 4 boats at work from morning till

night on favourable days, and the trout have, in consequence, become wary."—*Cliffe*. Flies most useful are the *Llyn Ogwen* fly, peahen, alder, and fernshaw. The Ogwen issues from the lake through a narrow savage gorge, called the Pass of the Benglog, when it is precipitated in a series of falls for more than 100 ft. From the broken and disjointed character of the rocks, it becomes rather a series of short falls than one large cataract—a circumstance which detracts from its picturesque beauty as a cascade, though, at the same time, from the broken scenery around, it never fails to create a strong impression on the visitor. Before quitting *Llyn Ogwen* no tourist should omit to visit *Llyn Idwal*, the wildest and most savage of Welsh lakes, which lies in a deep crater a little to the S. of the W. end of *Llyn Ogwen*. For gloomy grandeur it has not its equal: "bare rocks rising precipitously from it, and darkening by their heavy shadows its calm and quiet surface into intensest blackness." It was the reputed scene of the murder of *Idwal*, one of the princes of N. Wales, who was flung over the precipice by Duganant, to whose care he had been intrusted by Owain Gwynedd, his father.

As a matter of course, many absurd fables have at different times been told of the lake—that no bird will fly over it, that no fish will live in it—a great mistake, as they have been frequently caught, though small and not worth eating. On the W. side of the llyn is an extraordinary chasm in the rock, called *Twllddu*, or the Black Hole. It is a large cleft in the rock, about 100 yards deep, from which rises a perpendicular face of cliff, down which the surplus water from *Llyn-y-Cwn*, on the mountain above, finds its way to *Llyn Idwal*. To climb into it requires a considerable amount of nerve and steady footing, as the rocks are fearfully slippery, and a false step might

put the adventurous tourist *hors de combat*. Many rare plants grow in this vicinity, viz.: *Galium boreale*, *Plantago maritima*, *Thalictrum alpinum*, *T. minus*, *Arenaria verna*, *Adoxa moschatellina*, *Sedum rhodiola*, *Asplenium viride*, *Polypodium phlegopteris*, *Oxyria reniformis*, *Antennaria dioica*, *Leigoyne nivalis*, *Anthericum serotinum*, *Woodsia hyperborea*, *Mecanopsis Cambria*, *Rhodiola rosea*; while in *Llyn-y-Cwm*, *Llyn Ogwen*, and the boggy grounds around, are *Eriophorum vaginatum*, *E. polystachion*, *Molinia cærulea*, *Lobelia Dortmanna*, *Subularia aquatica*, *Juncus trifidus*; *Hieracium alpinum*, and *Solidago virgaurea*. A rough path from the S.W. side of the lake leads to the summit of *Twllddu* and *Llyn-y-Cwm*, from whence a slanting descent of about 2 m. will bring the traveller to *Llanberis*.

The signs of former glaciers are most marked in *Llyn Idwal*. "The rocks consist of interbedded masses of grit and felspathic porphyry, lying in a synclinal curve, and forming on either side the tall cliffs of *Y Garn* and *Glyder Vawr*. The waters of the lake are dammed up by a terminal moraine, lowest in the middle, the greater amount of débris having, as is usual with short glaciers, been brought down at the sides of the ice. The progressive decrease of the glacier is marked on the W. side by the moraines arranged in long symmetrical mounds one within another. There is also some appearance of an inner terminal moraine towards the S. end of the lake, where it narrows; and on the E. are patches of moraine matter and ice-smoothed bosses of rock rising through the soil."—*Ramsay*.

A little to the E. of *Llyn-y-Cwm* is the eminence of *Glyder Vawr*, and connected with it by a range of precipices called *Y Wain Oer* is the *Glyder Vach*, the highest points

in this range. The summit commands exquisite views over *Llanberis* and the lakes to the S.W., the peak of *Moel-y-Wyddfa* (*Snowdon*) being directly opposite. Immediately to the N. is *Y Trifaen*, a spur of the *Glyder Vach*. "The summit of the *Glyder* seems as if it had been washed by a tremendous sea; the stones lie loose and strewn at hazard, as on some wild coast; rocks, bare, cloven, and jagged, lie crossing each other in different directions, while the huge pointed *Trifaen*, with its sharp angular projections, height above height, seems like some huge monster with human aspect strangely distorted, scowling upon the *Carnedd-y-Gwynt*, or *Hill of Storms*."—*Roseoe*. The *Trifaen* is remarkable for the two enormous rocks on its summit, which from the vale below appear like figures. Although this mountain is seemingly inaccessible, it may be scaled without much difficulty on its western side. In *Cwm Bochlwyd*, underneath the *Glyder*, is *Llyn Bochlwyd*, one of the most perfect examples of a glacier lake in the district.

28 m. The *Ogwen* at the Falls is crossed at a sudden turn of the road, which immediately begins to descend the grand vale of *Nant Ffroncon*, "the Glen of Beavers." The tourist should be thankful for the excellent terrace-road which skirts the rt. of the vale, enabling him to view at his ease the vista of mountains on each side. In *Pemant's* time the journey through the vale was so formidable that he described it as the "most dreadful horsepath in Wales." Indeed, even since the present road has been formed, dangers have arisen; for, in 1831, an immense mass (upwards of 1000 tons) of rock was detached from the mountain near the Falls, and blocked up the way for a considerable time. The geological features throughout the whole of the vale often present

traces of glacier action, more particularly in the numerous "cwms" which run up into the hills on the l. *Cwm Graianog* is a very perfect example of glacier lake. "In the bottom of the valley, between Glyn Ogwen and the Falls of the Ogwen, the river wanders through marshes and flat meadows, which, I often incline to think, may at one time have been dammed up on the N. to form a lake, at a spot not far above the slate-quarries, where the Cambrian and Lingula grits, striking across the valley, have been ground by the old glacier of Nant Ffrancon into 'roches moutonnées' as perfect as any in Wales."—*Ramsay*.

The road keeps above and on the rt. bank of the Ogwen, passing, 31¼ m., *Ogwen Bank*, the charmingly-situated residence of Col. Hon. Douglas Pennant. A little to the l. the huge mountains of slate-rubbish, almost as sombre-looking as the cinder-heaps of the coal districts, betoken the proximity of the *Penrhyn Slate Quarries*, the property of the Pennant family, which have been carried on for many years on the very largest scale, upwards of 2000 men and boys being employed in them. The sight and sounds are singular enough to a stranger. The whole face of the mountain is scooped away in ledges or terraces, and dotted here and there at different levels by minute figures of workmen hacking at and detaching the slates. Here a busy group is seen carrying away a block to the workshops to be split; there a solitary quarryman hangs dangling by a rope, like a spider at the end of his web, suspended from the rock above, in the face of which he is patiently boring a hole to be filled with the charge of gunpowder. On a sudden a horn winds with a long and peculiar note; the busy workmen gradually disappear into holes and crannies, and, after the lapse of a few minutes, the

horn again sounds, and from 20 to 50 blasts are discharged in irregular and rapid succession from all sides and levels of the vast amphitheatre: masses of slate are rent away, falling down the sides like an avalanche, and fragments are sometimes driven through the air into the quarry below. The present improved regulations as to fixed times of blasting, and the strongly-constructed sheds made for the men to take refuge in, have greatly diminished the number of casualties and the loss of life which formerly occurred, chiefly from inattention to the warnings. The explosion cracks the rock to a considerable depth, enabling the men to detach large pieces with their bars, which are afterwards conveyed away on trams to the workshops to be split. The peculiar shivering sound emitted as the slates shoot down the steep inclines, the oft-recurring reverberation from the blasting, the enormous sombre heaps of rubbish, the materials of which are ever restless, ever working; the Babel of Welsh tongues shouting and vociferating in that most indistinguishable of languages, as only a Welshman can shout, the constant and ceaseless bustle—all combine to make it a picture full of interest.

These quarries have been worked for many years at the expense and to the enormous profit of the Pennant family, who have derived from them their large wealth. "Formerly the proprietors of the Penrhyn estate claimed one-eighth of the value of the slates according to the price they fetched at the water-side. The quarries were then let at 20s. for each man yearly. About the year 1740 a larger slate than usual began to be obtained, called 'doubles,' the first small sort being named 'singles.' The next size which was introduced was 'double double.' A still larger sort was then obtained, which doubled the last. General Warburton, then a proprietor, named

the different sizes Countesses, Duchesses, and Ladies." The characteristics of these different slates were amusingly described by the late Judge Leicester:—

"This Countess or Lady, though crowds may
be present,
Submits to be dressed by the hands of a
peasant;
And you'll see, when her Grace is but once
in his clutches,
With how little respect he will handle a
Duchess.
Close united they seem, and yet all who
have tried them
Soon discover how easy it is to divide them.
No spirit have they, they are thin as a batt,
The Countess wants life, and the Duchess
is flat;
No passion or warmth to the Countess is
known,
And her Grace is as hard and as cold as a
stone;
And I fear you will find, if you watch
them a little,
That the Countess is frail, and the Duchess
is brittle."

These names have since been discontinued: slates are now sold by the thousand, varying in price according to size, thickness, and quality—small roofing-slates, measuring about 10 in. by 6 in., fetching 72s. Slabs, however, are sold by the ton. The slates, when dressed, are packed close, edges uppermost, in wooden trams, and are thus taken down to Port Penrhyn, about 6 m., where they are shipped for exportation, the annual average being 120,000 tons. A large population has sprung up at *Bethesda*, depending entirely on the quarries for support. The owner has nobly endeavoured to provide for the requirements, moral and physical, of his workpeople, by building a handsome ch., two schools, and a hospital for the sole care of the quarrymen who have met with accidents. The Douglas Arms Hotel has a boat on Llyn Ogwen for the accommodation of angling visitors staying here. Two other quarries, of smaller size, are worked in this district, at Pantdrinog and *Coetmore*, where formerly was the ancient residence of the family of Pugh, who

were staunch Romanists at the time of the Reformation. Between the quarries and Bethesda the road crosses the united streams of the *Llafar* and the *Caseg*. The latter river, in times of heavy rain, used to be a fine object, "visible to the naked eye for a distance of 15 m.;" but the waterworks at Bangor have robbed it of its beauty.

The road continues its course down the vale of the Ogwen, which becomes surrounded on each side by wooded banks, to 35½ m. the model village of *Llandegai*, a little before entering which it crosses the Chester and Holyhead line, just as it enters the tunnel. Neat and well-kept cottages, each forming a part of a design, cluster round the ch., which stands on a slight eminence embosomed in trees and approached by a densely thick avenue of yews. It has been restored by Col. Pennant, and contains a mural monument to Archbishop Williams, Archbishop of York and Lord Keeper of the Great Seal in the time of James I. There is also an alabaster altar-tomb of great beauty, on which rest the effigies of a knight and lady. It is not known who are the persons thus commemorated, but the tomb is said to have been brought from the monastery of Llanfaes, after its spoliation, in the same manner as those at Beaumaris, Penmynydd, and Llanbeblig. There is also a monument of Lord and Lady Penrhyn, by Westmacott. It is supported on one side by a female figure in the attitude of grief deploring her loss, and on the other by a slate-quarrier bearing the implements of his profession. At the entrance into the village is the fine Norm. gateway leading into Penrhyn Park. Llandegai was the scene of a battle in 1648, between Sir John Owen, of Clenenney, and Col. Mytton, at the head of the Parliamentary army, in which the former was taken prisoner.

The towers of Penrhyn Castle

form a very imposing feature between Llandegai and Bangor, at the entrance into which place on l. is *Tunybyn*, the pretty residence of A. Wyatt, Esq.

37 m. Bangor (Penrhyn Arms). (Rte. 7.)

ROUTE 13.

BETTWS-Y-COED TO CORWEN, BY PENTREVOELAS.

From Bettws-y-coed to Pentrevoclas and Corwen it is 20 m., stopping on the way to view the falls of the Machno and Conway. 1 m. l. of Waterloo Bridge, on the high ground, is *Capel Garmon*, in which parish, on the farm of *Tyn-y-coed*, are a *carnedd* and *cromlech* opened by Mr. Wynn, of Voclas, in 1852, and found to consist of 3 sepulchral chambers, with a passage leading to the central one. It is called in the locality *Yr Ogof*, "the cave,"—a term very commonly given to denote the subterranean character of the *carnedd*. The names of places in the vicinity betoken Roman occupation, as *Carreg-leon*, *Dinas*, &c., while at *Carreg-Goediog* an elaborately-worked Roman fire-dog was disinterred a few years ago. The scenery in this portion of the *Conway* is altogether different from what it is lower down after the *Llugwy* has added its waters. There it becomes sedate and graceful; here it is pent-

up, boisterous, and romantic. About 1 m. above Bettws-y-coed it runs in a deep ravine called *Fors Noddyn*, which will well repay the scramble down; and at the junction of the *Machno*, 2½ m., where the road from *Ffestiniog* (Rte. 21) joins the high road, there is a *fine fall*. "It rushes through the ravine with tremendous impetuosity, and, after making a short, sharp turn—seeming, indeed, as though it would burst through the rock—flings itself over a long slope of river rocks into a deep pool below." The *Ffestiniog* road is carried over the chasm by a single bold arch. Near this spot are the falls of the *Machno*, which, though not equal to those of the *Conway*, are wild and beautiful enough to repay a visit, and to be transferred to many a sketch-book.

At 6 m. the road takes leave of the *Conway*, which turns suddenly as it flows from the S.W., and reaches, 7 m., *Pentrevoclas*—a small village more often resorted to by the angler than the tourist, as there is but little to detain any one. Near *Voclas Hall*, the seat of C. W. G. Wynn, Esq., are an earthwork, the site of the post of *Castell Coch*, and an upright inscribed stone, supposed to have been erected over the grave of *Llewelyn ap Seisylt*, slain here in 1021. Three roads run in here—on the l. from *Llanrwst*, on the rt. from *Ffestiniog* through *Yspyty Evan* (Rte. 21), and a little further on l. from *Denbigh* (*Hotel, Voclas Arms*.)

Distances.—*Llanrwst*, 8 m. by short road, and 11 m. by the bridge; *Corwen*, 15; *Pontyglyn*, 9; *Ffestiniog*, 14½; *Llyn Conway*, 6½; *Yspyty Evan*, 3; *Denbigh*, 18.

From hence the road follows the course of the *Merddwr* (a small stream, rising in the *Hiraethrog* hills, and flowing into the *Conway*), on very high and bleak ground, to 9½

m. *Cernioqe*, which, although only a single residence, and that, too, placed in the midst of desolate, unproductive highlands, was, previous to the introduction of the locomotive, an important resting-place during the palmy days of coaching on the great Holyhead road. This is generally considered to be the highest ground on the whole of the route between London and Holyhead, and, in fact, is the watershed between 2 great basins, those of the Conway and Dee, into which the road soon begins to descend. [The ranges of hills which have accompanied the road to the l. for the whole distance from Llanrwst are the *Mynydd Hiraethrog*, a wild and bleak mountain-chain which intervenes between the Dee and its tributaries, and the Elwy and Aled. The character of the scenery is not such as will repay exploration, although the valleys on the other side are full of beauty. About 5 m. N. of Pentrevoelas is *Llyn Alwen*, a considerable sheet of water in which the Alwen takes its rise. It is preserved by Mr. Wynn, of Voelas, and contains large pike and perch. About 2 m. further is *Llyn Aled*, giving birth to the Aled. It is preserved by Mr. Yorke, of Dyffryn Aled. Several of the more uncommon plants grow in the neighbourhood of these lakes—*Eriophorum*, *Viola palustris*, *Andromeda polifolia*, &c.]

Notwithstanding the general dreary aspect of the road, the views of the Snowdon range which occasionally present themselves will compensate for everything. 12½ m. *Cerrigy-druuidion*, erroneously translated "The Stones of the Druids," but, in reality, "The Stones of the Daring," is a primitive Welsh village which will not detain the traveller long (*Im, Lion*). It was noticeable in Camden's time for containing some "cistvaens," or stone chests. [Here a road on l. branches off, passing *Llanvihangel*, *Glyn Myfi*, *Clocaenog*,

and Pool Park (Lord Bagot), to Ruthin.] 13 m. at some little distance on l. is the eminence of *Penygaer*, a fortified post which tradition assigns to Caractacus. "After he had been routed by the Romans he retreated to this castle for safety, but was, with his whole family, betrayed to the enemy by Queen Cartismonda, and sent prisoner to Rome, where he delivered that celebrated speech referred to by all our historians."

At 13½ m. the road is joined by the picturesque little river *Geirw*, which flows joyously down to meet the Alwen. 16½ m. *Pont Glyn Diffwys* is one of the most striking and romantic scenes in the county. A deep chasm is crossed by a bridge of one arch of 50 ft. span, beneath which the river rushes over a series of rocky slopes into a deep glen. 17½ m. rt. *Maesmaur*, the beautifully-wooded seat of Mrs. Kerr, a little beyond which the Geirw joins the Alwen. 19 m. Druid Inn. 22½ m. Corwen (Rte. 3).

ROUTE 14.

BANGOR TO PWLLHELI, BY CAERNARVON.—RAIL.

The line to Caernarvon diverges from the Chester and Holyhead Railway at Menai Bridge Stat., and takes a course somewhat inland. 3½ m. rt. *Vaynol*, the finely-wooded

demesne of G. Duff Assheton Smith, Esq., who has inherited it from the late Mr. Thomas Assheton Smith, the noted sportsman, a large landholder in this district, and the former owner of the Llanberis slate-quarries.

4½ m. the rly. approaches close to the Menai Straits at *Port Dinorwig* Stat., a busy little harbour solely employed in the embarkation of the slates, which are brought from Llanberis by a rly. 7 m. in length. There is safe anchorage for about 120 vessels of 200 tons burthen. Here are *Moelydon*, and a little lower down *Porthamel*, the scene of the different "trajectus" of Suetonius, Agricola, and subsequently of Edward I.'s army (Rte. 7). On rt. is *Bryntirion* (J. Millington, Esq.).

4 m. rt. *Dinas*, a small fortified eminence opposite *Porthamel*.

6½ m. *Griffith's Crossing*. On rt. the ch. of *Llanfair Isgaer*, close to the water's edge, and *Plas Llanfair*. On the opposite bank are the woods and mansion of *Plas Llanidan*, the estate of Lord Boston. [The turnpike-road from Bangor keeps close to the rly. for the whole distance, but from its being on higher ground and obviously free from the necessity of cuttings and tunnels, it commands more beautiful views of the Menai and Anglesea.]

9 m. *Caernarvon* (*Hotels*: Uxbridge Arms, close to the station, and Sportsman, excellent; Castle) is the most convenient and desirable head-quarters for tourists. Independently of its own attractions, it stands as it were at the portals of the finest scenery in N. Wales, the very heart of which can be reached within a moderate walk, Snowdon itself being not more than 12 m. distant. From the earliest times Caernarvon has attracted attention, which may be set down to the excellence of its situation at the entrance of the

[N. Wales.]

Menai Straits and at the mouth of the *Seiont*, as well as the facilities for defence offered by the eminences around. The metropolis of the *Segontiaci*, who were of such importance that we read of Cæsar receiving an embassy from them, *Caer Seiont* was subsequently occupied by Ostorius Scapula and Suetonius Paulinus, who, to keep their conquests from recapture, founded the camp of *Segontium*, which under the later Roman rule grew up into a city famous for its buildings, its baths, its statues, and the many luxuries which the Roman governors took care should accompany their exile into Britain. The history of *Caer Seiont*, after the Romans left the country, is a series of savage raids and incursions, in which the town was repeatedly pillaged and burnt. In 1098 Hugh Lupus Earl of Chester, endeavouring, though unsuccessfully, to bring the Principality under his power, repaired and fortified the place. About this date the people bestowed upon it the name of *Caer yn Arvon*, "the Camp in Arvon," a title which it has ever since maintained. The year 1284 saw the first visit of Edward I., and the commencement of the erection of the *Castle*, one of the most important fortresses in Wales. A large amount of antiquarian knowledge has been brought to bear upon it with respect to the time of its building, and more particularly as to the reputed birth of Edward II., the first Prince of Wales, in the Eagle Tower; but from diligent examinations of the public records by the Rev. C. H. Hartshorne, it has been satisfactorily established that he could not have been born there, for the very good reason that the castle was not then built. Though founded in 1284, and indeed as some say in the previous year, it was not finished until 1322, though it may be that the building was retarded about 1294 by a rising of the lately subdued Welsh, headed by Madoc

and Morgan, the illegitimate sons of Llewelyn. By the terms of their submission the people were to be exempt from taxes for the King's French wars, and, when his officers attempted to levy money for that purpose, they took up arms in many places, defeated the Earl of Lincoln, and, having stormed the town of Caernarvon, set it on fire. On this occasion Sir Roger Pulesdon, the constable, was then and there seized by the people, and hanged over his own door. Some years after, a second unsuccessful revolt was stirred up by Sir Gruffydd Llwyd of Tregarnedd, who suffered death as his reward. Subsequently Caernarvon underwent 2 sieges by Owain Glyndwr in the 15th cent., and one by the Parliamentarians during the civil wars under Captain Swanby, who took and garrisoned the fortress. It occupies a very large area on the W. and N.W. of the town, and is in shape an irregular oblong, surrounded by high walls, which are surmounted at intervals by 13 polygonal towers, with light turrets rising from them. It is said to have been built partly from the materials of old Segontium, and partly with stone from Anglesea. The principal entrance or King's Gate faces the N. nearly opposite Castle-street, and is approached by a flight of steps, and a bridge over what was once the moat. Above the gate, which is flanked by a tower on each side, and was defended by 4 portcullises, is a statue of Edward I., the founder, under a canopy, which, when put up at the completion of the works, "gave great umbrage to the still smouldering independence of the nation.

"'Are ye lead—see ye not where Edward sits?'

exclaimed a bard in one of his strains, and a thousand hands quivered on the blades."—*Pugh*. The gates are of massive timber, and have been of late years restored from a design after those at Alnwick Castle. The

interior is divided into 2 quadrangles, but, as the dividing wall has disappeared, it is chiefly marked by a change of level, which is highest on the E. side. The W. portion contains the state apartments, which occupy the S.W. angle, overlooking the mouth of the Seiont. They are spacious, and lighted with good traceried windows. At the extreme W. is the famous *Eagle Tower*, which, above all the others, at once commands attention from its height and beauty. It is the only one to the summit of which an ascent can be made, as the staircase has been safely repaired. It derives its name from mutilated figures of eagles on the battlements, said to have been brought from Segontium, but erroneously, as an item was discovered amongst the charges, for supplying the eagles. A room is shown in which Edward II. is supposed to have been born, though we have already seen that that fiction is quite dispelled. As at Beaumaris, galleries (in tolerable preservation) run through the thickness of the walls, which are pierced with oylet-holes. Here the sentinels were posted to keep watch, and, in the event of an attack, the loopholes, by which alone it is lighted, allowed them to annoy an enemy without exposing themselves. The loopholes in all cases command the line of the curtain, so that no foe could lodge himself beneath the walls out of the range of the arrows. This passage even runs through the room of Edward's birth, an additional reason for rendering the tradition of the locality improbable, when there were so many larger and more convenient apartments. The tower on rt. of gateway is the Well Tower. The upper quadrangle contains on l. the Dungeon Tower, probably the one "in which the stout-hearted William Prynne—the persecuted alike of Churchman and Independent, of Laud and of Cromwell—was imprisoned until the number of sympathisers who resorted

to Caernarvon in order to catch sight of him caused his removal to a less accessible spot.”—*Land we Live in.*

The granary is at the N.E. corner, the Black Tower on the S. side, and between the two is a gateway known as the Queen's Gateway. Although the arch is of very elegant span, yet as a gateway it is inferior to the grand entrance. On the inside the ground so rapidly rises up to it, from accumulations of rubbish, that the effect is lost; while on the outside there is a very considerable drop, owing to the town-wall, upon an esplanade of which the gate opened, being swept away. It appears, therefore, that the upper court was occupied with the buildings necessary for the defence and supply of the garrison, while the lower one contained the apartments. The view from the Eagle Tower is very fine. W. and N. are the Menai opening into a wide expanse of sea, and a large portion of the Anglesea coast with its sandbanks, its undulating hills, and white villages. On the S. the Seiont runs through a picturesque dingle, of which the one bank is covered with the woods of Coed-Helen, and the other is lined with long quays by the side of which numerous coasting-vessels are occupied in shipping the interminable rows of slates. To the W. lies Snowdonia in all its rugged variety, terminated by the steep cliffs of Yr Eifl and Carreg-y-Llam, which forms such a conspicuous feature in all the Caernarvon views. At the foot lies the town, with its walls, its busy streets, and quays. When viewed from a distance, the castle perhaps raises the expectations higher than are realised by a nearer examination, for, though it possesses so many elements of size and grandeur, it lacks the more interesting details of Beaumaris and Conway. The same architect was employed, viz. Henry de Elreton. 4d. each person is charged for admission. The castle is Crown property, and was much repaired and strength-

ened in 1845 by the Commissioners of Woods and Forests under the architectural guidance of Mr. Salvin.

The *Town Walls* were about $\frac{1}{2}$ m. in circumference, and extended from the Eagle Tower (where 2 small posterns gave admittance) directly N. as far as a small turret called “*Twr-y-gloch* ;” they then turned sharp round to the E. for a short distance, and again to the S., rejoining the castle near the Queen's Gate. They were formerly strengthened by a moat externally, and 12 semicircular towers. The seaward gate is called *Porth yr aur*, and leads on to an esplanade, which runs the whole length of the W. side of the town, affording a very delightful and breezy walk. The opposite or land gate was the *Porth Mawr*. A chapel now occupied as the *Town Ch.* occupies a portion of the walls in the N.W. angle, the windows of the aisle having been pierced in them. It is, however, only a chapel of ease to Llanbeblig, the mother church. The walls, though in some parts in tolerable preservation, have been so usurped and built upon by private occupiers of adjoining tenements, that as relics of old Caernarvon they are of very little use to the general visitor. In its main feature the town presents the straight arrangement of streets which bear that evident design always found in Edward I.'s towns.

The other buildings consist of the *North Wales Training Institution*, which accommodates from 40 to 50 students; the *Guildhall*, over the E. town gate; the *Shire-hall*, nearly opposite the castle entrance.

One of the finest possible views is obtained from the summit of *Twt Hill*, an eminence at the back of the Uxbridge Arms, from whence the tourist can study, as from a map, the external outlines of the hill country. Besides the esplanade before mentioned, there is also a timber-pier and

a long slate-pier by the banks of the Seiont. Immense quantities of slates (from 90,000 to 100,000 tons annually), as well as a considerable amount of copper, are brought down from the vale of *Nantlle* by rly.

The site of *Segontium* lies at Llanbeblig, about $\frac{1}{2}$ m. outside the town on the Beddgelert road, which indeed runs right through it. The excavations at this spot brought to light a Roman well or cloaca, where the vicarage now stands; also portions of a street and hypocaust, together with numerous coins of the reigns of Domitian, Maximus, Aurelian, Constantine, and Tetricus. The walls are in tolerable preservation on 2 sides, about 10 ft. in height and 6 in thickness. Several out-works kept up the communication, particularly towards the Seiont, where, "on the opposite bank, under Bryn Helen, remains existed to the close of the last cent." Between them ran the causeway of Helen or "Sarn Helen," which led to the fortified post of *Dinas Ddindle* (p. 102). The excavations are now filled up, and the visitor will have some difficulty in tracing the external features of the defences. The total area of the station was about 7 acres. Many of the places in the vicinity bear the name of Helen, such as Bryn Helen, Sarn Helen, Ffynnon Helen, Coed Helen, &c. They were so called in honour of the Princess Helena, daughter, of Octavius, the Duke of Cornwall, and wife of Maximus, first-cousin of Constantine, who was born at *Segontium*. *Coed Helen*, on the opposite side of the Seiont, is the seat of Rice Thomas, Esq.

From the excellent society in the neighbourhood, the beauty of the surrounding scenery, and the plenty and cheapness of the markets, Caernarvon has become the residence of a number of families, who impart a degree of animation unusual in Welsh towns.

Distances.—Bingor by road 9 m,

by rail 9; Llanberis, 10; Dolbadarn Castle, 8; Snowdon, 12; Capel Curig, 18; Llangollen, 47; Corwen, 42; Pwllheli, 20; Tremadoc, 20; Beddgelert, 13; Pont Aberglaslyn, $14\frac{1}{2}$; Clynnog, 10; Llyn Cwellyn, 7; Bettws Garmon, 5; Yr Eifl, 14; Tubular Bridge, 10; Newborough, $3\frac{1}{2}$; Beaumaris, 13; Drws-y-coed, 11; Menai Bridge, 8; Nant Gwitheyrn, 15.

Conveyances.—Coaches daily to Bettws-y-coed, *via* Llanberis and Capel Curig; to Beddgelert, Porthmadoc, and Tanybwelch; to Nevin and Edeyrn. The "Fairy" steamer frequently makes excursions during the summer up the Menai, and sometimes as far as Llandudno or Moelfre Bay.

The Caernarvonshire Rly., by which the tourist proceeds S., is, in a portion of its course, the same as the old *Nantlle* Rly., which was worked by horse-power. The line crosses, 1st, the Seiont, and 2nd, the Gwrfai, before a halt is made at $2\frac{1}{2}$ m. *Llanwnda* Stat.

$3\frac{1}{2}$ m. *Groeslon* Stat., on the borders of Glynllifon, the noble domain of Lord Newborough.

$5\frac{1}{2}$ m. *Penygroes* Stat., the nearest point for the *Nantlle* Lakes, slate-quarries, and the pass of Drws-y-coed. [The views, as the tourist approaches the 2 lakes, are among the finest in N. Wales. The valley is a narrow amphitheatre, occupied almost entirely by the *Llyniau Nant-y-llef*, along the N. side of which the road and rly. are carried. The hills on either side, but more particularly on the S., are grand and precipitous, where the escarpments of *Llwydd Mawr* terminate in the black slaty cliffs of *Craig Cwm Dulyn* and *Craig Cwm Silyn*. From the W. end of the lakes, Snowdon is seen closing the pass, in one of its most beautiful aspects—a scene well known from the celebrated picture of Wilson, which was taken from a spot called

Dolbebin, a little to the rt. *Nantlle* (9 m. from Caernarvon) is a celebrated quarrying and mining district, the scenery of which is undoubtedly marred by the heaps of rubbish, the smoke issuing from the chimneys of the slate-works and the cottages of the workmen, of which there are a goodly number. Nothing, however, can spoil the cliffs of *Drws-y-coed*, which overhang the pass, as if to forbid further progress. A fair road skirts the northern side of the gap, until the head of the pass is reached at *Bwlch-y-felin*, directly in front of which *Snowdon* lies withoutstretched arms in all its magnificence. The time in which the scenery of *Nantlle* and *Drws-y-coed* is seen to the best advantage is when a storm is gathering and about to burst, when each mountain and each ravine seems to rival the other in intensity of blackness. On crossing the head of the pass *Llyn Cwellyn* is opened out on the l. : on rt. is *Llyn-y-gader*, situated in the midst of the most desolate of moors. Close to the road is the little *Llyn Dywarchen*, which has attained a celebrity far beyond its deserts for possessing a floating island, which, however, in reality, is nothing more than an erratic piece of turbary. Giraldus Cambrensis mentions of it that "the island is often driven from one side to the other by the force of the winds; and shepherds behold with astonishment their cattle, whilst feeding, carried to the distant parts of the lake. A part of the banks naturally bound together by the roots of willow or other shrub may have been broken off and increased by the alluvion of the earth from the shore; and being continually agitated by the winds, which in so elevated a situation blow with great violence, it cannot reunite itself firmly with the banks." A little further on the road joins at *Pont-rhyddu* (Rte. 19) the *Caernarvon* and *Beddgelert* road, to either of which places the tourist can proceed. *Pont-rhyddu* is 4 m.

from *Nantlle*, 9 from *Caernarvon*, and 4 from *Beddgelert*. The distance of the excursion from *Caernarvon* by *Penygroes* and back by *Pont-rhyddu* will be 23 m.]

From *Penygroes* the line keeps due S., passing the village of *Llanllyfni*. In this parish is an old house, supposed to have been built on the site of a residence of *Edward I.*, who is asserted by tradition to have lived here in 1284. A long incline is now ascended, skirting the western slopes of *Llwyd Mawr*, and the rly. then descends the valley of the *Dwyfach* to

11 m. *Brynkir* Stat. On the rt. are the noble masses of *Bwlchmawr* and *Gyrn-ddu*.

16 m. *Chwilog* Stat., to l. of which is *Gwynfryn*, the seat of *O. J. Ellis Nannery, Esq.*, and the village of *Llanystumdwy*, charmingly placed on the border of the *Dwyfawr*.

17 m. *AFONWEN JUNCT.* with the *Cambrian* line, by which the traveller completes the remainder of his journey to

21½ m. *Pwllheli* (Rte. 15).

ROUTE 15.

CAERNARVON TO PWLLHELI,
BY CLYNNOG.—ROAD.

Soon after quitting Caernarvon, the road to Pwllheli crosses ($\frac{3}{4}$ m.) the Seiont, which flows through a very picturesque dingle. A road on rt. leads to the village of *Llanfaglan*, the ch. of which contains a stone inscribed "LOVERNUS FIL." Many uncommon marine plants grow on the sandy waves of the coast, at the extreme point of which is *Belan*, a miniature fort and bathing-place of Lord Newborough, guarding the entrance of the Menai.

2 m. at *Pontnewydd* the road crosses the Gwrfai, which issues some miles up from Llyn Cwellyn (Rte. 19). On rt. is the ancient post of *Dinas Dinnoethni*. There are traces of several forts in this neighbourhood. At *Gaerwen*, $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. l., is a double stone fort, within the area of which a number of flint arrow-heads were discovered. In the farm of *Boduden* a quantity of bones were ploughed up, and several graves observed, showing that it had been the scene of frequent conflicts both in Roman and Saxon times. 3 m. rt. *Llanwnda*, near which place a road is given off to the l. to Porthmadoc. From hence an interminably straight road leads to Clynnog, passing on l. *Glynllifon*, the magnificently wooded park of Lord Newborough, into whose family the estate came by marriage of the heiress of the Glynnys with Thos. Wynn of Bodvan. Its beauties, however, are screened from public view by an immensely high wall. This long road may be circumvented by following the Nantlle road from Caernarvon, and turning off at Penygroes to the rt. by a by-road to Pontliffini.

5 m. rt. the restored ch. of *Llandwrog*. Overlooking the sea is *Dinas Ddinlle*, a large station said to have been connected with Segontium. Although probably made use of by the Romans, it was evidently a British post, and is strongly fortified with a double range of escarpments. It contains traces of watch-places, but its seaward front has suffered considerably from the action of the waves.

$7\frac{1}{2}$ m. the Llyffni is crossed near its mouth. [$\frac{1}{2}$ m. l. is *Pont-y-cim*, a curious old bridle-bridge, on the keystone of which is incised—

"CATRING BWKLE IATH GIVE 20
PVNDES TO MACK THE BRIGE." 1612.

On an eminence to the S. are *Craig-y-dinas*, a Roman encampment in fair preservation, and *Foel*, a British hill-fortress. $8\frac{1}{4}$ m. l. on rising ground is the cromlech of Penardd. The $4\frac{1}{2}$ m. of straight road is agreeably terminated by the pleasant little village of *Clynnog*, $9\frac{1}{2}$ m., with its fine old ch. embosomed in trees. (*Inn*: Newborough Arms, a comfortable roadside hostelry.) The ch. is cruciform, and a magnificent specimen of Late Perp., about the time of Henry VII. It consists of nave, chancel with sacristy, two transepts, and chapel, with a tower at the W. end, and a porch surmounted by a muniment-room leading into the nave. The tower is 74 ft. high, of 3 stages, and supported by buttresses of 8 stages at each angle. There is no spire, but the battlements rise towards the middle. The porch at the N. of the nave is entered by a 4-centred doorway, and the room above is lighted by square-headed 2-light windows. The nave is entered from the porch by a flight of steps. It is 80 ft. long, and lighted by windows of 3 lights, of which the middle is ogee-headed. The transepts, which are of good breadth, are lighted by a window of 5 lights at the end, and

one of 3 lights at the sides. The chancel is separated from the nave by a beautifully carved roodloft, under which is a row of sedilia of carved oak. There is also a good carved timber roof. Inside the communion-rails on N. is an ancient altar-tomb, and above it a mural monument representing an adult figure with several smaller ones kneeling. In an aumbry on the rt. is an imperfect Latin inscription. The sacristy to the N. of the chancel has a groined roof, and contains the chest of St. Beuno, formed out of a solid tree, for the reception of the offerings to the saint. There are also a mural brass in the N. transept of the 17th centy., and an altar-tomb dividing a pew underneath the reading-desk to Col. Twistleton, 1676, who, in the civil wars, took Sir John Owen prisoner. At the S.E. angle of the chancel a circular staircase leads to the roof and the roodloft. From the tower porch a passage runs S.W. to St. Beuno's chapel, which is thus, to a certain degree, cut off from the ch. It has probably been erected on the site of a much more ancient building. It is lighted by windows of beautiful design, and contains the tomb of St. Beuno, "upon which patients used to be laid who resorted hither for the cure of their diseases, through faith in the merits of the patron saint, or in the sanctity of the spot." The ch. was founded by St. Beuno in 616, in the time of Cadvan King of Wales, who gave the land for the purpose. It afterwards became a monastery of White Monks, who were suppressed in the 13th centy., and Clynnog then became a collegiate establishment. Leland mentions "Clunnok Vawr, a monasterie sometime of White Monkes, suppressed many years ago. The church that is now there with cross isles is almost as bigge as St. Davide's, but it is of a new make." A legend is connected with St. Beuno similar to that of St. Teilo related in

the 'Liber Llandavensis,' viz. that the saint was buried here—an honour claimed equally by Nevin and Bardsey Island; and that, on prayer being made by the respective churches that he would reveal himself, the politic saint showed himself to all three at once. The well of St. Beuno lies on the l. of the road, a little past the ch., but, like most of the once sacred wells, is neglected and uncared for. In a field overlooking the sea, about $\frac{1}{2}$ m. to the S.W., is the *Bachwen* cromlech, remarkable for the very large size of the superincumbent stone, and for its having 4 instead of 3 supporters.

The road from Clynnog soon begins to ascend, as it winds along the western slopes of the large blocks of mountain known as *Gyrn Ddu*, *Gyrn Goch*, and *Moel Penllechog*. 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ m. l. is an extremely pretty dingle, at the head of which is a small waterfall. These mountains are of the same group as *Yr Eifl*, or, as they are commonly called, *The Rivals*, which rise in such sudden abruptness on the rt. 13 $\frac{3}{4}$ m. the head of the pass is reached at the small village of *Llanelhaiarn*. Viewed from this spot, *Yr Eifl* presents a magnificent escarpment of frowning precipices, though on the S.W. and S. sides the ascent may be made with perfect ease.]

[A path from *Llanaelhaiarn* on the rt. runs at the foot of the cliffs, and through the pass of *Bwlch-yr-Eifl*, from which there is a lovely retrospective view of Clynnog, the coast and bay of Caernarvon. On rt. is the smaller *Eifl*, no great height above the pass, but fearfully precipitous on the seaward side. The accessories peculiar to the working of a copper-mine at the very head of the cliffs rather add than otherwise to the striking wildness of the scene. On the l. *Yr Eifl* par excellence rises abruptly to the height of 1868 ft., though on the E. side there is a

lesser peak of only 1400 ft., which is the more interesting of the two, as it contains within its fastnesses the early fortified town of *Tre'r Caeri*, one of the most perfect and interesting examples to be found in the whole county. "It consists of several groups of cells or 'cyttiau,' surrounded by a wall enclosing upwards of 5 acres, being more than 300 yards from E. to W. The inner wall, which is very perfect, is in many places 15 ft. high, and in some 16 ft. broad, and has a parapet and walk upon it. There are 9 groups of cells of various forms—round, oval, oblong, square, and in some instances a combination of hexagonal chambers leading to a circular one." (*Arch. Cambr.*) It is a singular fact that history is utterly silent respecting this important post—at all events a negative proof of its immense antiquity. The view over the promontory of *Lleyn* to the S.W. is very fine, the whole outline of the coast, with its various cliffs and bays, being spread out as in a map. The conical hills rising abruptly in the centre are *Carn Boduan* and *Carn Madryn*. More to the S. are the little port of *Pwllheli* and *St. Tudwall's Road*, opposite to which is the coast of *Cardigan Bay*, with the *Merionethshire* hills in the background. For grandeur, and at the same time for a certain peculiar wildness, the view from *Yr Eifl* has not its equal. There is a tradition current that these mountains are magnetic, from which fact they have obtained the name of *Llithfaen*, or "stone-attracting," and masters of vessels are careful not to approach too near the coast, in consequence of the effect that they believe to be exerted on their compasses. The fact probably is that there is a strong under-current setting in all along this coast, which is dangerous to vessels, and very apt to lead them out of their course. The path through the pass is carried at the head of a wonderfully precipi-

tous ravine, shut in by the sea on one side, and on the others by walls of mountain, forming the most complete picture of isolation that it is possible to imagine:—

"Hinc atque hinc vastæ rupes geminique
minantur
In cœlum scopuli, quorum sub vertice latè
Æquora tuta silent."

This hollow of *Vortigern* or *Nant Gwrtheyrn* is said to have been the last resting-place of that British king, "who fled here to escape the rage of his subjects, excited by his inviting the Saxons into Britain."

Until the beginning of the 17th centy. a tumulus existed here, which, on being dug into, yielded a coffin containing bones of an unusually tall man. A small homestead or two are the only signs of life in this secluded glen.

Further S. is *Carreg-y-Llam*, the rock of the leap, overhanging the sea in one tremendous precipice, of such height that even in the views from *Caernarvon* this rock is plainly visible. There is said to be a cave at the foot of it, and it is a great resort of sea-birds, who add their discordant cries to the roaring of the waves. From hence the pedestrian must strike inland until he gains a rough road which runs past the solitary little mountain ch. of *Pistyll*, leading to *Nevin*. There is an important granite quarry on the rocks near *Pistyll*, from which quantities of stone are sent by sea to London. The distance from *Llanellhaiarn* to *Nevin* by this route is about 7 m.]

From the top of the pass a long descent leads through an uninteresting country, passing, 16 m. rt., *Trallwryn* (J. E. Lloyd, Esq.), and 1.1 m. the conical eminence of *Carn Pentyrch* and the village of *Llangybi*, where there is a mineral well, to 20 m. *Pwllheli* (*Inn, Crown*), a brisk little corporate town and seaport of some

2000 Inhab., doing a good deal of business, notwithstanding its out-of-the-way situation. It is, however, the principal emporium for a very large district extending to the extremity of Lleyn, besides possessing some lesser advantages, such as a remarkable profusion of fish, and facilities for bathing, which, as far as regards beautifully clear water and a fine beach of 4 miles long, are unsurpassed by any place in the kingdom. At the mouth of the port is the *Gimlet Rock* or *Carreg-y-Wimbill*, and a large embankment has been made at a considerable expense to protect the harbour from encroachment of the sea. The town itself presents nothing of interest, but magnificent views of the Merionethshire coast are obtained from the heights above *Deneio*, where the parish ch. is situated. The walk may be extended to *Llanor*, 2 m. N., where there are some inscribed stones of the 6th century.

Distances.—Caernarvon, 20 m.; Criccieth, 8; Nevin, 7; Aberdaron, 20; Clynnog, 10½; Yr Eifl, 7; Porthmadoc, 14; Edeyrn, 8; Porth Dinlleyn, 8.

A mail-cart to Nevin (Rte. 16).

ROUTE 16.

FROM PWLLHELI TO BARDSEY ISLAND,
BY NEVIN AND ABERDARON.

An interesting excursion may be made to Nevin, and from thence through the promontory to Aberdaron, returning by the coast to

Pwllheli, the distance being about 36 m. 1½ m. l. *Bodegroes*; 2½ m. l. *Cefn Mine* (late P. Carnegie, Esq.); and rt. 1 m. is *Llanor*, with its inscribed stones. 3 m. rt. is *Bodvel Hall*, an old mansion-house belonging to Lord Newborough, interesting as being the birthplace of Mrs. Thrale, the wife of Piozzi, and friend of Dr. Johnson. 4 m. the village of *Boduan*. *Boduan Hall* is one of Lord Newborough's seats, situated just underneath *Carn Boduan*, which rises abruptly from the plain to a height of about 900 ft. It may be ascended for the sake of the view, which is finely panoramic; but if the tourist has ascended Yr Eifl hills, it is a needless toil. 6 m. the road turns sharply to the rt. to, 7 m., *Nevin*, a paltry little fishing-village at the foot of *Carn Boduan* (*Inn*, Ty Cerrig). There is nothing worth seeing in it. The ch. has a singularly narrow tower, with a disproportionate ship for a weathercock. Edward I. held a grand triumphal festival here in 1284, at which a round table and tournaments were the principal amusements. "The concourse of nobility and gentry that attended it was immense." 2 m. to the S.W. is *Porth Dinlleyn*, to which place a remarkably good road was constructed from Pwllheli many years ago, under the impression that Government was going to make a packet-station here. During the railway mania its claims were again urged against those of Holyhead as an Irish port, and the Great Western Railway even proposed a broad-gauge railway from Worcester. For a third time public attention has again been called to it by a scheme which promises a railway from Barmouth to Porthmadoc, and thence to Pwllheli or Porthddinllaen. From hence a road runs S. through the village of Edeyrn, where it divides. The one to the l. offers the best scenery, passing close to the foot of *Carn Fadryn* or *Madryn*, the largest of the two conical mountains which

are so conspicuous in the promontory. Nant Llaniestyn runs between the road and the mountain, which was formerly an important stronghold of the sons of Owain Gwynedd, to whom this portion of the country belonged. On the summit are still visible traces of cells or cyttiau, so common in these early fortified posts. On the northerly slope is *Madryn*, the seat of T. L. D. Jones Parry, Esq. 7 m. from Porthddinllaen is *Sarn Meylltern*, a hamlet at which several roads meet, and, amongst others, the second road from Edeyrn, which passes the village of Tudweiliog, and *Cefn Amwlch*, the seat of C. W. G. Wynn, Esq. On Mynydd Cefn Amwlch is a very perfect cromlech with a peculiarly peak-shaped superincumbent stone. About 1 m. to the S.E. is the fine triple-aisled ch. of Llangwnadl, which contains a good sculptured font. From Meylltern to Aberdaron (6 m.) the road traverses the dreary common of Rhos Hirwaun, and by the side of Mynydd Ystum, on which is a large circular camp called *Castell Odo*.

Aberdaron is a remote little village on the sea-coast, very near the most S. extremity of Llyn. Notwithstanding its situation, it was an important place in the religious world at the time of the dissolution of Bardsey Abbey, and contained a fine ch., which was probably an auxiliary or succursal establishment, for the accommodation of the pilgrims who were waiting opportunities for visiting the neighbouring island. The old ch., which was for a long time in such neglect that the waves were actually eating away the walls, was restored from designs by Mr. Kennedy, and consists of a N. and S. aisle, of which the N., the oldest, is entered by a circular-headed doorway. It has a good Perp. E. window, with ogee-headed lights. In consequence of the decay of this ch., a new pseudo-Norman building was

erected; the parishioners, however, disliking the innovation, subscribed to have the old one restored. The parish is large, and contains several antiquities—as *Castell Odo*; the old mansion of *Bodwrda*, of the time of Charles I.; and a portion of the ancient chapel of *Eglwys Vair*, just on the head of Braich-y-pwll, the extreme point of Llyn, and the *Canganum Promontorium* of Ptolemy. This district, though eminently wild and primitive, is worth visiting, if it is only for the coast scenery, which is grand, especially on the S. and W. of the promontory. At *Parwyd*, opposite Bardsey, the cliffs descend to the water in a sheer precipice of 600 ft. Few of the tourists who penetrate Llyn have time or courage to visit *Bardsey Island*, which lies some distance from the mainland, separated by a tidal current of such rapidity and force, that the island is called in Welsh *Ynys Enlli*, or the Isle of the Eddy. The difficulties of making the passage are often insuperable, and cases have been known of unfortunate travellers, who have succeeded in making the island, being detained there for a considerable time much against their will. A boat can be obtained by those who are determined to make the trip at Aberdaron or Porthmeudwy. Mr. Cliffe in his excursion paid 10s. The island is about 2 m. in length, and rises very precipitously on the N.E. face. Giraldus Cambrensis thus mentions it:—“Beyond Llyn there is a small island inhabited by religious monks called *Cælibes* or *Colidei*. This island, either from the wholesomeness of its climate, owing to its vicinity to Ireland, or rather from some miracle obtained by the merits of the saints, has this wonderful peculiarity, that the oldest people die first, because diseases are uncommon, and scarcely any die except from extreme old age. The name is *Enlli* in Welsh, and *Bardsey* in the Saxon language; and many bodies of saints are

said to be buried there, and amongst them that of Daniel, Bishop of Bangor."

"Ad Nevyn in North-Wallia
Est insula permodica
Quæ Bardiseia dicitur:
A monachis incolitur;
Ubi tam diu vivitur.
Quod senior præmonitur
Ibi Merlinus conditur
Silvestris ut asseritur."

Higden's Polychronicon.

The present inhabitants number about 100, and obtain their living mainly by fishing. They pay a rental to Lord Newborough, but beyond that own no government but their own, "cultivating a spirit of mutual independence, and electing from themselves a king, who also goes through the duties of minister."

At the S. end of the island is a lighthouse, from whence on a clear day St. David's Head is visible at a distance of 62 m. Although there is no ch. or any religious establishment now, Bardsey was famous in former times for its abbey of St. Mary, of which a portion is still left. It was founded in 516 by Cadvan King of N. Wales, and speedily attracted numbers of devotees, to the number it is said of 20,000 saints, "to whom it afforded an asylum during life, and after death graves to as many of their bodies. Well, therefore, it might be called *Insula Sanctorum*, the Isle of Saints; but, with Dr. Fuller, I must observe that it would be much more facile to find graves in Bardsey for so many saints, than saints for so many graves." Amongst other religious characters who resorted here was the holy Dubricius, Bishop of Llandaff. The only remains of this once extensive building is a portion of a tower of the 13th cent. An inscribed stone was discovered during a visit of the Cambrian Archæological Association in 1818. An interesting account is given by the Rev. H. L. Jones in the '*Archæologia*,' vol. i., 1st series.

On the return to Pwllheli the coast-road to the S. should be followed, passing the villages of *Llanfaelrhys* and *Rhiw*, which is situated on high rugged ground overlooking the sweep of *Porth Nigel*, or Hell's Mouth, a bay much dreaded by mariners on account of certain currents. The 'Transit' was wrecked on the E. side of the bay in 1839. The parish of *Llanengan*, in which this occurrence took place, is remarkable for its fine ch. of the early part of the 16th cent. Having fallen into decay, like many of its neighbours, it was restored by Mr. Kennedy. It contains a very richly-carved screen running across the aisles, which for ornamentation of design is unsurpassed in Wales. The bells are said to have been brought from Bardsey. In Llangian churchyard, a little to the N., is an inscribed stone, round which is a curious sunk pavement.

The scenery in the neighbourhood is well worth exploring, particularly at the headland of Trwyn-cilan. There are a number of camps and fortified posts all round. *Nanhoron*, on rt. of road, is the seat of R. L. Edwards, Esq., very romantically situated at the entrance of the dingle through which the Bodlâs flows. $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. from Llanengan is *Abersoch*, a small fishing harbour. From hence the road skirts the bay, passing rt. Llanbedrog, to Pwllheli.

ROUTE 17.

FROM CAERNARVON TO CAPEL CURIG,
BY LLANBERIS AND PENYGWRYD.—
ASCENT OF SNOWDON.

Coaches leave Caernarvon daily for Llanberis and Capel Curig, *en route* for Llanrwst. The road runs at the foot of the Twthill, passing 1 m. l. *Coedmore* (E. G. Powell, Esq.), and at 2¼ m. crossing the Seiont.

3 m. a little to the rt. is the ch. of *Llanrug*. In the grounds of the vicarage is an inscribed stone.

4 m. at Halfway, a road l. 1½ m. leads to the fortified post of *Dinas Dinorwig*, of an oval shape, formed with earthen mounds, which were probably subsequent to others, as earthen forts are generally of later date than stone ones. On rt. is *Brynbras*, the castellated modern seat of T. Williams, Esq. Overhanging the road is *Caer Carreg-y-fran*. "A strong wall of cyclopean masonry was carried along the edge of the cliff; the entrance faced to the W., and had a projecting bastion on each side." The road now runs close alongside of the Seiont (or, as it is called in the Ordnance maps, *Afon Rothell*), which, issuing from Llyn Padarn, flows into the Menai at Caernarvon. On the other side of it is a rly., which conveys the slates from Llanberis quarries to Port Dinorwig (Rte. 14), a distance of 7 m. The locomotive seems somewhat out of place here, as it glides past rock and lake with its long train of slate-trains. 5¼ m. the mountains, which have been gradually drawing nearer, now come down close to the road, leaving but a small vantage ground between them and the W. shore of Llyn Padarn. They are, in fact, the spurs of Snowdon, which is seen piercing the sky with its sharp peak. On rt. are the slate-quarries of *Glyn*, the property of Lord Newborough.

7½ m. *Dolbadarn Inn*, and a little farther on the Victoria Hotel, a more pretentious establishment. They are both very comfortable, and during the season are thronged to repletion with visitors, who largely patronize the ascent of Snowdon from Llanberis, as being the easiest, most gradual, and cheapest.

Llyn Padarn, so named after the saint Padarn or Paternus, who it is said had a cell in these parts, is the lowest and largest of the 2 lakes that fill up the valley. It is about 1½ m. in length, though seldom of any breadth. It is inferior in beauty to *Llyn Peris*, which is considerably smaller, but is surrounded by grand hills emanating from Moel Eilio and the Glyders, which descend to the very brink of the water. A short neck of land intervenes between the 2 lakes, which are, however, connected by a stream. They are of great depth, and were formerly celebrated for their fish, particularly char; but the refuse from the slate-quarries and the copper-mines have driven the greater part away, aided, no doubt, by the poaching propensities of the quarrymen, who have generally a sharp eye for game in any shape.

On a rocky eminence at the back of the Victoria Hotel, and overlooking the lower end of Llyn Peris, is the round tower of *Dolbadarn*, a very striking and beautiful feature in the scenery of the glen from its isolated and commanding position. This post is known to have been possessed by Maelgwyn Gwynedd in the 6th cent. For 23 years it was the prison-house of Owen Goch, immured here by his brother Llewelyn up Iorwerth, as a punishment for rebellion; and in the time of Edward I. it sustained a siege at the hands of the Earl of Pembroke, when garrisoned by Davydd, brother of Llewelyn ap Gruffydd. From its position at the mouth of the pass, it

played an important part in defending the mountain districts, which were guarded on the other sides by Dolwyddelan, Cricceith, and Harlech. In form it is a cylindrical tower of 3 stages entered on the 2nd stage by a stair against the wall outside. It is of rude masonry, but from its wall stair, pointed arch, and general proportions, may be pronounced to be of E. E. or Dec. date. It has long been in ruins, the tower only being left in Leland's time. The botanist will find *Hymenophyllum Tunbridgense* growing at the foot of the castle. The hills on the opposite side of the lake are disfigured by the slate-quarries of *Dinorwig*, which, next to those at Penrhyn, are the largest and most important in Wales, employing nearly 2000 men. They were commenced by the late Mr. Assheton Smith, of Vaenol, and are now the property of his heirs. "The rock in these quarries has been worked to the depth of 300 perpendicular feet. The roofing slates are split and dressed in numerous sheds, while the slabs are manufactured at powerful steam and water mills in the neighbourhood. Convenient tramways, about 23 m. in extent, are laid along the various workings and quarry banks; upon these small waggons are run, into which the slates and slabs are loaded and taken to the inclines, whence they are let down by wire ropes to the rly. The inclines are 18 in number, averaging 600 ft. in length. The tourist is permitted to ride up them, and thus to visit the quarries. The slate is cut by piece-work, the bargainners, as they are called, taking each a certain number of feet in width; and to such a nicety can they blast the sides of the quarry, that they have been known to continue on their 'lines' for 25 years without encroaching an inch on the adjoining bargainer's tenure. The machine for dressing the slates is called the guilotine, and is almost as dangerous to

handle as its formidable namesake: after cutting away clean the four sides of the slate, it pushes the latter from the block into the basket. The number of tons annually carried away by the rly. averages 1,200,000. It is a singular sight to watch the quarrymen who live along the line of rly. returning home. This they accomplish by the aid of 30 velocipedes, which are placed on the rly. and worked by the men themselves by means of a windlass. Each velocipede contains 8 persons, and, proceeding in the direction of the port, deposits the labourer at the nearest point to his respective dwelling."—*Life of Assheton Smith.*

9 $\frac{3}{4}$ m. *Llanberis* village is romantically situated at the entrance of the gorge, mountains towering on every side of it. Several neat lodging-houses have been erected for the convenience of those who wish to make some stay in the district, and can devote more time to exploring Snowdonia. The ch. is a little to the rt. of the road, and is one of the most interesting and picturesque buildings in the county. It contains a very singular timber roof of the 15th cent., which has been likened to a ship with the keel uppermost. The whole has been well restored by Mr. Kennedy, the Diocesan architect. Excursions *ad infinitum* may be undertaken from Llanberis, of course commencing with Snowdon, which is described in p. 112. The pedestrian should also scale the Glyders, which may be easily done by striking up one of the ridges of *Esgair Felen*; or he may climb the slopes of *Elidyr Fawr*, and from thence visit the lakes of *Marchllyn*, and over Carnedd Filiast to Penrhyn quarries. The rocks on both sides of Llanberis and Dolbadarn exhibit in the faces of the cliffs flexures of the oldest strata, viz. Cambrian rocks, the equivalents of the Longmynd. "Containing the best roofing-slates in the

world, and subordinate courses of grit, with rocks of igneous origin intermixed, they are seen to fold over and plunge to the E.S.E., so as to pass under the great and massive succession of schists which constitute the distant heights of the Snowdon range. The unfossiliferous slaty rocks of Llanberis pass into the overlying strata, which, by their imbedded organic remains, are known to be of Lower Silurian age."—*Siluria*. More recent, but not less interesting, are the frequent and clear signs of glacier action all through the valley. "The rocks when unweathered are round and mammillated, and their smooth surface sometimes grooved, the striations running N.W. in the direction of the valley and the length of the lake. A beautiful glaciated surface of hard Cambrian grit may be seen by the bend of the road near the copper-mine above Llyn Peris, close to the small octagonal building marked 'Office' on the Ordnance map, where the striations running down the valley are as fresh as if the ice had but lately disappeared."—*Ramsay*.

Quitting the village, the road now ascends the famous *pass of Llanberis*, the wild grandeur of which is scarcely exceeded in Great Britain. For nearly 4 m. the road is carried at the foot of precipitous mountains, which rise up on each side in cliffs some 2000 feet high. Stern, black, and rugged peaks bound the valley, those on the rt. being strewn with fragments of dark rock which have fallen from the toppling crags above, strewing the slopes and bottom of the valley for miles with débris of shattered slate, to the prejudice of all vegetation. Since the days of the older tourists, Gilpin, Warner, Bingley, and Pennant, travelling through this pass has become a very different affair to what it was then. Then the road from Caernarvon stopped short at the end of the lower

lake, leaving nothing but a bad horse-path to the village and up the pass, which was constantly choked up and covered with masses of rock and rubbish detached from the hills by frost and rain. Now a broad turnpike-road, as smooth as any in England, winds up with a gradual ascent for the convenience of those tourists who prefer seeing N. Wales from the inside of a carriage. At 11½ m. the road crosses the river at *Pont-y-Cromlech*, "where bosses of felspathic porphyry rise like little hills in the middle of the valley, something like miniatures of that behind the Grimsel." On l. is a large block of fallen stone miscalled a *cromlech*. It was once called Ynys Hettws, or Hetty's Island, from the circumstance of an old woman of that name taking up her abode in the angles formed by the blocks. She occupied herself during the summer by tending sheep and milking cows. Opposite this spot the deep ravine of *Cwm Glas* runs up into the very heart of Snowdon, terminating with the precipices of Crib-y-Ddysgyl. This was one of the most extensive glacier valleys, and many signs plainly betoken it to the observant eye, such as moraine heaps, boulders, and "roches moutonnées." The pedestrian should ascend this cwm, for at the extreme end of it lies an upland valley declared by Professor Ramsay to be unmatched for wildness in all Wales, "bounded on 3 sides by tall cliffs and mountain peaks, in the midst of which lie 2 little deep, clear tarns, 2200 ft. above the sea, each in a perfect basin of rock, resembling on a small scale the Todten See and the lake behind the hotel of the Grimsel." This valley is separated from the lower part of the cwm by a steep escarpment of rocks, some 800 ft. in height. From hence he may climb the ridge of Crib Goch, and so to the summit of Snowdon.

12½ m. *Gorphwysfa*, "the resting-

place," where a roadside inn, with fair accommodation, at the summit of the watershed, invites 5 minutes' rest to recover one's breath. The view both before and behind is perfect for severe mountain landscape—not a tree, not a token of cultivation, but wild, bare, rocky peaks rising one above the other until they are lost in the clouds. Here you turn off to ascend Cwm Dyli and Snowdon (p. 115), the route always taken by the Capel Curig guides. Glacier markings are plainly visible close to path going up Cwm Dyli.

Llyn Llydaw is about $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. distant, and the summit of the mountain between 4 and 5 m. No sooner does the road descend than the view opens over the valley of Nant-y-gwryd, at the end of which the enormous mass of Moel Siabod fills up the picture. To the rt. the lovely valley of Nant Gwynant opens out, showing signs of softer beauties that are very gratifying to the eye after so much desolation.

14 m. *Penygwryd Inn* (Rte. 18), a roadside tavern of no pretensions, but thoroughly comfortable for those who do not require superfluous luxuries. It is a capital station for fishermen in consequence of its proximity to the Mymbyr lakes, *Llyn Gwynant*, *Llyn Llydaw*, and several smaller ones. Henry Owen, the host, is a good guide to them all, as well as to the neighbouring mountains. The nearest lake is *Llyn Cwmffynnon*, about $\frac{3}{4}$ m. from the inn, at the foot of the Glyderbach. It is, however, small, and the trout are smaller, not more than $\frac{1}{4}$ lb. There is better fishing in the *Gwryd*, the little river which runs down to the Mymbyr lakes. "The angler, fond of bottom-fishing, may soon fill his basket by merely keeping out of sight of the quick-eyed trout, and begin his pursuit at less than 5 minutes' walk from the inn."—*Cliffe's Angler*.

Distances.—Dolbadarn, $6\frac{1}{2}$ m.; Capel Curig, 4; Snowdon, 5; Beddgelert, 8.

From Penygwryd, a gradual descent of $3\frac{1}{2}$ m., through the valley of Nant-y-gwryd, brings the tourist to Capel Curig, $17\frac{1}{2}$ m. (Rte. 12.) The scenery is desolate and severe, unrelieved by foliage and cultivation, although every now and then a farmhouse gives the appearance of life; but the farms in these upland regions are very different to the snug, wooded homesteads of English counties, as the most valuable part of them consists in extensive mountain pasturage and sheepwalks. At the end of the valley the *Llyniau Mymbyr*, two fine sheets of water, are the principal objects of attraction, especially as the hotel, that most comfortable of Snowdonian resorts, is situated close to them, embosomed in almost the only trees in the district. These lakes, at one time full of fish, are now worth nothing to the angler, owing probably to the too free use of the net, which, however satisfactory to the landlords who rent the pools, is ruinous and impolitic to a great degree. Capel Curig is a central and excellent station for exploring Nant Ffrancon, Carnedds Davydd and Llewelyn, the Glyders, Trifaen, *Llyn Idwal*, all of which are described in Rte. 12. One of the most extensive views in the whole district is obtained from *Moel Siabod*, which rises a little to the S. of Capel Curig to a height of 2870 ft. On the N. and W. it is easily ascended, as on these sides it is rounded and covered with smooth grass until near the summit, which is broken and rocky; but the eastern face is grand and precipitous, with a crater-shaped escarpment, at the bottom of which lies the small tarn of *Llyn-y-foel*. Notwithstanding the easy ascent of Moel Siabod, accidents have happened through want of caution, a gentleman of the name of Homer having perished from exhaustion

during a storm a few years ago. It is easy to descend from the summit in a S.E. direction to Castle Dolwyddelan, and thence down the Lledr to Bettws-y-coed.

Snowdon, with the vast numbers of subordinate peaks and shoulders that belong to it, occupies a very considerable area, of which Llanrug, Bettws Garmon, Beddgelert, Nant Gwynant, Capel Curig, and Llanberis may be taken as the outside points. This, of course, will not include the district of Snowdonia generally so called, which extends from the Conway to the Irish Sea (Introd., p. vii.), but merely that portion of Snowdon proper which is divided from the rest by some distinctive valley or pass. The area within these points may be roughly estimated at from 10 to 12 m. N. to S. by 6 m. E. to W. The principal attraction in this enormous block of mountain is, of course, *Moel-y-Wyddfa* ("the conspicuous summit"), the loftiest eminence in England and Wales, which towers up to the height of 3571 ft. above the level of the sea. From the summit run 3 narrow ridges, which soon subdivide into others more prolonged, and enclosing within their precipitous recesses deep cwms, in which a number of tarns and Alpine lakes lie embosomed. Of these primary ridges the most northerly is (1.) *Crib-y-Ddysgwyll* (the 'Toothed Dish', which sends off on each side the branches of *Crib Goch* to the E., and *Clogwyn d'er Arddu* to the W.; while between these 2 last the *Llechog*, or *Llech-wedd-y-Re* (the rapid ascent, slopes down towards Llanberis. Between the Clogwyn and Llechwedd is *Cwm Brwynog*, containing the tarn of Llyn d'er Arddu. *Cwm Glas* lies between Crib Goch and Llechwedd, which is still further indented by the small supplementary valley of *Cwm Glas Bach*. The shoulder of Clogwyn d'er Arddu is prolonged N.N.W. into a series of heights, such as *Moel-y-Cyngharion* and *Moel Goch*, which

are terminated over Bettws Garmon by the bluff slopes of *Moel Eilio*. 2.) The ridge of *Bwlch-y-Maen* runs S.S.W. for a short distance, and soon subdivides into (i.) the *Llechog*, just opposite Drws-y-coed, and (ii.) *Bwlch-y-Llan*, which is terminated above Beddgelert by the lofty peaks of *Yr Aran*. Between Clogwyn d'er Arddu and Llechog lies the deep *Cwm Clogwyn*, holding in its bosom Llyn Glas, Llyn Goch, Llyn-y-Nadroed, and, a little lower down, Llyn-flynnongwâs. Between Llechog and Yr Aran lies *Cwm Craigog*, a valley of no great importance. (3.) S.E. runs the ridge of *Bwlch-y-Saethau* (the pass of arrows), which does not subdivide, but is prolonged into the jagged edges of *Lliwedd*, overhanging Nant Gwynant. Between it and Yr Aran is *Cwm-y-Llan*, a "corrie" of enormous depth; and on the N. side of Lliwedd is *Cwm Dyli*, the grandest of all the Snowdon valleys, containing at its highest end the small tarn of *Glasllyn*, and lower down *Llyn Llydaw*. These are the main physical features and divisions of the Snowdon mountains, which every tourist will find it to his account to master, as a knowledge of the geography of the different ranges adds immensely to the pleasure of the ascent.

"The world may be challenged to find a more worthy typical ideal representative mountain than Snowdon. This claim is based on the extraordinary variety, combined with symmetry, presented by his very structure. His summit is a perfect peak, sharper than a cone, and from this summit his ridges stretch in almost organic articulations down to the actual bases, where his personality is ended by streams, beyond which rise other individual mountains."—*Cuthrall*.

As regards the ascent of Snowdon the most opposite opinions have been expressed. The earlier writers seem, nearly all, to have considered it a most formidable and nervous feat, requiring

a good deal of preparation, and involving much self-gratulation after it was over. But in these days of travelling we do not look on mountains with the same feelings, partly from increased familiarity with Alpine ranges in different parts of the world, and partly from the tendency to bracing muscular exercise. The ascents are 4 in number, viz., from Llanberis, Llyn Cwellyn, Beddgelert, and Capel Curig, each of which will be described seriatim. All the tracks from these places are so broadly and plainly marked, that in clear weather any person of moderate experience in mountains could easily find his way up without a guide; but if there is the slightest chance of a fog (and fogs often come on in the most sudden and inexplicable manner) the tourist should not start unattended, more particularly if it is the first time that he has ascended. By the same rule no night ascent should be made without a guide, as fatal accidents have happened by neglecting this precaution. *Au reste*, with the exception of the excursion from Capel Curig, there is nothing about it calling for any but moderate exertion, care, and nerve, which are requisites for everybody visiting any mountain-district. The other requirements are a thickish pair of boots, a good walking-stick, a map, and a flask of whisky.

1. *The ascent from Llanberis* (about 5 m.) is the easiest, most accessible, and consequently the most patronized of any, several hundred excursionists having been known to go up in one day. Guides and ponies may be engaged at the hotel. The charge for the former is 7s., a high price considering the distance: of course when the party is large the expense is reduced to a fraction, though in such a case it is presumed that few would insist on the payment of merely the rigid fee. At the back of the Victoria a path crosses the

road, and follows the l. bank of the stream which issues from Cwm Brynog and Llyn Dwythwch, until the waterfall of *Ceunant Mawr* is reached. Though only of the height of 60 ft., it is a peculiarly beautiful fall, owing to the sudden uprise of an oblique wall of rock, which turns the water aside, not allowing it to fall over the face, but along the edge. At the foot is a deep and darksome basin, into which the river takes its final plunge. From the summit of the rocks a good view of the mountain is gained, with the exception of the topmost peak, which is hidden by one of its own shoulders. The *Afon Llŵch*, which, with another stream, forms the cataract, rises in *Llyn Dwythwch*, about 2 m. up, which contains red trout. From *Ceunant Mawr* the track turns S.E., and runs up the W. slope of *Llechog* or *Llech-wedd*, overlooking *Cwm Brwynog*, one of the largest, though least grand, of the 5 great glacier valleys that run down from *Moel-y-Wyddfa*. In this glen is an ancient stone, concerning which a tradition was current that any person who slept a night upon it would awake either a poet or a madman. This same tradition, however, has been applied to the summit of Snowdon.

At the head of *Cwm Brwynog* is the small *Llyn d'er Arddu*, lying at the foot of the tremendous cliffs of *Clogwyn d'er Arddu*. As the tourist mounts *Llechog*, lovely views open up of the Llanberis lake, and of the country down to *Caernarvon*. At the summit of this shoulder a path turns off to the rt. to a copper-mine, which was the scene of a fatal accident in Aug. 1859, when a gentleman named *Frodsham*, ascending by night without a guide, strayed from his party and took this path, and by so doing fell over the rocks.

The smaller glen of *Cwm Glasbach* now opens up, together with extensive views of the *Glyders*, *Mynydd Mawr*,

and a large expanse of country. From hence the path becomes steep and zigzag, but the grand prospects which are momentarily enlarging soon distract the attention from all sense of fatigue. Ere long the narrow ridge of Crib-y-ddysgyll is reached, the point where the Capel Curig route comes in, and a sharp pull speedily lands the visitor at the topmost peak of Moel-y-Wyddfa.

2. *The ascent from Beddgelert* involves an uphill walk along the turnpike-road to Caernarvon for 3 m., until the tourist reaches Pitt's Head. The whole distance is 6 m., and the charge of the guide is 7s., but to descend on the other side 10s. The walk up the valley of the Colwyn, which brawls by the side of the road, is pleasant enough, but is felt by most tourists to be rather a nuisance, and to fatigue one somewhat before commencing the real ascent. Turn off to the rt. at the farmhouse of *Ffridd Uchaf*, through which the track leads up broken and rough ground, though not very steep. Rather more than 1 m. from the farm is a cairn, marking the spot where Mr. Cox, a tourist, fell, from exhaustion and cold, on the descent in October, 1859, having previously ascended from Llanberis when the snow was deep on the mountain. The way soon becomes steep up the *Llechog*, but the grand scenery spread out often tempts the traveller to halt and feast his eyes on it.

Moel Hebog, Mynydd Mawr, Llyn Cwellyn, and Moel Eilio are the principal objects in front, while through the pass of Nantllef the sun gleams on the sea at Clynog. To the rt. Anglesea and Caernarvon are visible, and to the l. the eye wanders over Tremadoc and the coast at Harlech. Nearing the summit of Llechog, we suddenly look over the fearful cliffs of Cwm Clogwyn, a deep caldron or corrie, running N.W., and containing several tarns, which can be

visited in the route from Llyn Cwellyn. At the top of Llechog we suddenly emerge upon the very narrow and prolonged ridge of *Bulch-y-Maen*, or, as it is called by some, *Clawdd Coch*, the bugbear and terror of timid Snowdon tourists. It is about 8 ft. in breadth, and nearly $\frac{1}{4}$ m. in length, and divides Cwm Clogwyn and Cwm Llan, the cliffs of which descend on each side in fearful precipices. Many are the accounts and experiences of this famous pass. Bingley declares, "that if a person held a large stone in each hand, and let them both fall at once, each would roll above a quarter of a mile, and thus, when they stopped, would be more than half a mile asunder." This account is a little exaggerated, though the close proximity of these 2 immense gulfs is enough to make one look to one's steps in no ordinary degree. The path is, however, quite safe, and ladies may ride along it without any fear. The guide tells curious stories of the fright that this passage has caused tourists, of whom one gentleman in particular so far lost his presence of mind that, on his return, he had to be carried over blindfold. Even in times of fog this spot is very grand—to see the whirlpools of vapour on both sides boiling and seething, until a gust of wind suddenly makes a great gap, so as to allow the bottom of the cwm to be visible: but it is only for a moment; for before the eye has had time to fathom the depth and understand it, it is closed up, to open elsewhere. It seems as if you were at sea, with the clouds for ocean.

"A vast mist enveloped the whole circuit of the mountain. The prospect down was horrible. It gave an idea of numbers of abysses concealed by a thick smoke furiously circulating round us. Very often a gust of wind formed an opening in one place, at others in many; at once exhibiting a most strange and per-

plexing sight of water, fields, rocks, or chasms, in 50 different places.”—*Pennant*.

The rapidity with which the fogs close up round the peaks and glacier valleys of Snowdon is a singular feature; for even on a fine clear day the summit will suddenly become enveloped; and it is this peculiarity which demands such care on the part of the tourist.

3. *The ascent from Llyn Cwellyn*, $4\frac{1}{2}$ m., is perhaps the least striking; and for this reason, as well as the want of accommodation at the lake (there being only one small inn), it is the least often undertaken. The path, a former copper-mine track, is carried over a large extent of somewhat swampy ground, along the southern slope of Moel-y-Cynghorion (Hill of Council). From hence it gradually ascends to Bwlch-cwm-Brwynog, and gains the summit of the cliffs of Clogwyn d’er Arddu. In its course it passes on rt. a large erect stone, or *Maenbras*, which, though it appears as if it had been set up by design, is nothing more than an enormous erratic block brought down by the glacial drift. From this route *Cwm Clogwyn* may be visited, with its lakes, *Llyn Glas* (Blue Lake), *Llyn Coch* (Red Lake), *Llyn-y-Nadroed* (Lake of Adders), and *Llyn Ffynnon-gwâs*, or Servant’s Lake, so called from a farm-servant having been drowned in it while washing sheep. *Llyn-y-Nadroed* contains no fish, probably from the existence of some mineral poison, but the others have trout, which are very shy and difficult to catch. The cliff on the Clogwyn d’er Arddu was the scene of the death of the Rev. H. Starr, of Northampton, who in 1846 lost his way in a fog and fell over. He knew the mountain very well, and was in the habit of going up by himself. One evening in November he determined to ascend from Llyn Cwellyn, against the wishes of the guide, who

attempted to dissuade him. He went, however, and got bewildered in the fog. His body was not found till the following March, though all the population was engaged in constant search. It was discovered by William Williams, a Llanberis guide, at the foot of the Clogwyn, much mangled by wild cats.

4. *The ascent from Capel Curig* is the longest, most difficult, and by far the grandest of all. The distance is nearly 9 m., of which $4\frac{1}{2}$ is along the turnpike-road to Llanberis (p. 111). The fee is 10s., but from Penygwryd only 5s. The ascent commences at *Gorphwysfa*, “the resting-place,” at the watershed of the pass, where there is a small road-side public-house. The path turns off to the l., and, climbing over some rough and rocky ground, passes the small *Llyn Teyrn*, where there are some deserted miners’ cottages. It soon enters the grandest valley of Snowdon, *Cwm Dyli*, and comes in sight of *Llyn Llydaw*, about $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. from Gorphwysfa. This beautiful Alpine pool is of the darkest green colour, and about 1 m. long. Its broadest end reposes under the lofty precipices of Lliwedd, lying at the height of 2500 ft. above the sea. “Around it rise the cliffs of Lliwedd, Cribgoch, and Pen Wyddfa, seamed with veins of white quartz, that gleam like sheaths of snow on the tall black rocks encircling the vast amphitheatre, the scarred sides and ragged outlines of which, sharply defined against the sky, may well seem, till attempted, hopelessly inaccessible to the unpractised climber.”—*Ramsay*. Its beauty has of late years been much shorn by an ugly embankment, made by the miners for the purpose of access to a copper-mine on the N.W. side of the pool, which, by this proceeding, has been drained to a considerable extent, and lowered to a depth 12 ft. or so less than it was before. An islet, now

connected with the mainland in consequence of this drainage, was the resort of innumerable black-backed gulls, which are stated by Mr. Cliffe to have since entirely disappeared. The path is carried across the embankment, and then follows up a little river which issues from Ffynnon Llyn Glas, or Glaslyn, a small tarn on a much higher level, situated in a deep basin directly under the precipice of Moel-y-Wyddfa. The whole of this track has been made and used by the copper-miners, who have driven a level into the heart of the rocks just above the lake. It is zigzag and steep, and demands considerably more care than any of the other routes, as one false step would roll the tourist down the slope to perdition. The ascent is very trying up to Crib-y-ddysgyll, on the summit of which ridge the path joins the Llanberis route. The visitor who has thus arrived at the peak of Snowdon by any of these routes will be much mistaken if he comes prepared for mountain solitude, for Moel-y-Wyddfa in the season is one of the most crowded spots in Wales. The guides have erected 2 huts on the highest point, where comestibles, such as eggs and bacon, may be obtained at tolerably reasonable prices, considering the labour of getting them up. In foggy or wet weather it is no slight relief to find a dry room and blazing fire. A charge of 5s. is made for bed and breakfast, to those who wish to see the sun rise. There is no doubt that the presence of a host of excursionists is not always grateful to the lover of nature, but he must take it as it is, with all the pleasures and all the annoyances. Fortunate are they who have ascended on a cloudless day, for the prospect is one of almost boundless magnificence. "In this great prospect the mountain tarns, which gleam upon you from the bosom of the hills, form the most remarkable feature. I counted 23; among them one, very

far up its own mountain, gleamed out as from a brimming basin, over the Holyhead road, at least 1500 ft. above the neighbouring track of human traffic."—*Talfourd*. The distant views embrace the mountains of Cumberland, Westmoreland, and Lancashire, Penygvent and Ingleborough in Yorkshire, the Isle of Man, the hills of Wicklow with a good part of the Irish coast; while nearer home we have the whole of Anglesea and Caernarvonshire at the feet, and we might almost say the whole of N. Wales. To the N. and N.E. rise Moel Eilio, Mynydd Mawr, the Glyders, Moel Siabod, Trifaen, Carneddus Davydd and Llewelyn, Penmaenmawr, and the Menai Straits, with the Clwydian hills in the distance. To the W. are Moel Hebog, the pools of Nantllef, Drws-y-coed, Gyrngoch, and Yr Eifl, with the sparkling sea beyond; while to the S. the eye wanders over a perfect wilderness of mountains—Moelwyn, Cynicht, Moel Lledr, and the Manods above Ffestiniog, the Arenigs, the Berwyns, Aran Benllyn and Aran Mowddu near Bala, Llawlech and the Rhinogs over Harlech, Cader Idris near Dolgelley, the rounded hills of Montgomeryshire, with Plinlymmon and the Cardiganshire hills in the far distance. Directly at the feet lie Llanberis, with its lakes, Llyn Cwellyn and Llyn-y-gader, and the beautiful vale of Nant Gwynant, while a stone might be thrown into any of the deep valleys underneath. From 25 to 30 lakes are visible altogether from the summit.

"Amidst the vast horizon's stretch,
In restless gaze the eye of wonder darts
O'er the expanse; mountains on mountains
piled,
And winding bays and promontories huge,
Lakes and meandering rivers, from their
source,
Traced to the distant ocean."

Barren and desolate as all this mountain region now appears, it was in former days the most thickly-

inhabited and the most important part of Welsh soil. "The barons of Snowdon were the most potent lords of the soil, and the seignory of its broad and bold domain was always the most severely contested and the last resigned. Edward I. celebrated his final triumph over the ill-fated Llewelyn in jousts and festivals upon its plains; he made it his summer residence; it was chosen as the congress of the native princes and of the bardic contests; and palaces and hunting-seats animated its wooded and well-peopled eminences."—*Roscoe*. Its early name was Eryri, or Craig Eryri, which some have taken to mean the Rock of Eagles, and others the Snowy Mountains, a term which is not well applied, as it is generally free from snow from May to November, although in late seasons drifts lie in the hollows considerably longer. The Snowdon district was of such extent that it gave rise to the proverb, "As Mona could supply corn for all the inhabitants of Wales, so could the Eryri mountains afford sufficient pasture for all the herds if collected together." Camden speaks of them as the British Alps, "*Alpes, si placet, Britannicas merito hos montes appelles, nam præterquam quod totius insulæ maximi sunt, etiam incisus undique rupibus, non minus quam Alpes, præcipites.*" To look at the barren appearance of the rocks, few tourists would ever imagine that they were well wooded. But so it was. Snowdon was made a royal forest by Edward I., and was then famed for its deer. It was, however, disforested in 1649, though a ranger is still appointed by the Crown. The geology of the mountain is very interesting. An old writer quaintly sums it up in the following words:—"The uncommon Snowdonia (so denominated, like the Armenian Niphates and the Tartarian Imaus, from its snowy summits) consists of such a variety of mineral substances as to render

it impossible to give them a distinctive character, as they begin so high as the calcareous, and descend so low in the system as the softest argile."—*Lloyd*. It has been already seen that the rocks at Llanberis are the equivalents of the Longmynd or Bottom Rocks (p. 109). To these succeed "dark blueish-grey slaty schists, representing the inferior part of the Llandeilo formation. In them, however, no clear fossil evidences have been detected. They are traversed by eruptive rocks, consisting of porphyry or greenstone."—*Siluria*. At the summit of Snowdon are the Caradoc or Bala Rocks, "although the original beds alternate rapidly with volcanic dejections of ashes and felspathic materials." Many typical casts of shells may be found here with very little search. (See *Introd.* p. xiv). "All these porphyries are true silurian lava-beds, accompanied by volcanic ashes of the same period. They are perfectly interbedded with fossiliferous strata; and it is worthy of remark that the slates on which the porphyries rest have been altered at points of contact by the overflowing melted masses, whereas the slaty beds that rest upon them, having been deposited on a cooled surface, are unchanged by heat."—*Ramsay*. The observer, standing on the summit of Moel-y-Wyddfa, will be able to understand the different courses which the glaciers took in flowing through their respective valleys, at the bottom of which he will mark the striations on the rocks above, besides the numerous blocs perchés, roches moutonnées, and moraine-heaps which are scattered about in every direction.*

Snowdon offers a rare harvest to the botanical collector, though many of the more uncommon plants have become very scarce, owing to the

* No geologist should visit Snowdon without well studying Prof. Ramsay's admirable brochure on the Glaciers of North Wales.

repeated calls on the Flora of the district by enthusiasts in the science. Bingley, who was an experienced botanist, enumerates the following:—*Anthericum serotinum*, *Saussurea alpina*, *Cerastium alpinum*, *C. latifolium*, *Saxifraga stellaris*, *S. nivalis*, *S. oppositifolia*, *Lychnis alpina*, *Cyathea fragilis*, *Asplenium septentrionale*, *Pteris crispa*, *Mecanopsis cambrica*, *Viola alpina*, *Geum rivale*, *Dryas octopetala*, *Saxifraga aizoides*, *Poa glauca*, *Festuca rubra*, *Arenaria verna*, *Asplenium viride*, *Oxyria digynus*, *Thalictrum alpinum*, *Aspidium lonchitis*, *Polypodium arvenicum*, *Arabis hispida*, *Rubus saxatilis*, *Juncus squarrosus*, *Heliocaris cæspitosa*, *Schænus nigricans*, *Hieracium alpinum*. Besides these there have been found *Polygonum viviparum*, *P. phlegopteris*, *Habenaria albida*, *Parnassia palustris*, *Lycopodium alpinum*, *Woodsia alpina*, &c.

Dyli to join the Colwyn at Beddgelert. It takes its rise in the little tarn of Glasllyn, lying immediately under the summit of Snowdon; and passing through Llyn Llydaw, it enters Nant Gwynant, flowing over a series of cascades for about 300 ft. At $3\frac{1}{2}$ m. it falls into Llyn Gwynant, the most exquisite of Welsh lakes, situated under the precipices of Lliwedd, and with woods feathering down to the water at the lower end. It is about 1 m. in length, but with a shallow weedy bottom, full of fish. The injudicious use of the net by the landlords of the hotels, has, however, considerably spoiled the fishing. The trout are fine and strong, and "of 2 varieties, bright yellow, which when cooked cut red, and an inferior sort, of darker colour with white belly." Cliffe states that from one net alone, in a single season, 15,000 dozen of trout were taken. There are several boats here, and amongst others one belonging to Owen, the landlord of the Penygwryd inn. The most likely part of the lake is the lower end. Flies: peahen, alder, red-spinner, and fernshaw.

The old route, which runs from Penygwryd on a lower level, following the track of a Roman road, here joins the present turnpike-road. The traveller who is journeying from Beddgelert perceives from a considerable distance the long line or scur faced by a wall, traversing the side of the mountain, which marks the road to Llanberis, reminding him of the zigzags in some of the grand roads over the Alps, by means of which the skill of the engineer has rendered the highest mountain ridges passable for heavy carriages and waggons. Previous to arriving at Llyn Gwynant is a track on l. leading through Bwlchyhediad into the valley of the Lledr and Castell Dolyddelan, which is about 5 m. distant (Rte. 12). On the S. side of the lake are 2 pretty villa residences.

$5\frac{1}{2}$ m. l. are the woods of *Plas Gwy-*

ROUTE 18.

FROM PENYGWRYD TO BEDDGELERT, BY NANT GWYNANT.

From Penygwryd a most lovely road, made in 1833, branches to Beddgelert through the vale of Nant Gwynant, in which some of the finest views of Snowdon are obtained. $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. rt. the little river *Afonlâs*, or Glasllyn, issuing from the glen of Cwm

nant, opposite to which *Cwm Llan* runs up N.N.W. under the very peak of *Moel-y-Wyddfa*, which in clear weather is seen peering down through the gap to greater advantage than perhaps from any other point.

6 m. a smaller sheet of water, *Llyn-y-Ddinas*, now opens out, connected with *Llyn Gwynant* by the *Glasllyn*, which has become a tolerably broad stream. It is of an oval shape, completely shut in by mountains, although it does not quite come up to *Llyn Gwynant* in scenic effect. *Yr Aran*, another of *Snowdon's* loftiest shoulders, towers over the W. bank. The fishing is inferior.

[Between the 2 lakes, on the S. side of *Plas Gwynant*, a road to 1. follows the course of a small brook which rises in the precipitous ranges of the *Lledr* mountain. The scenery, especially the views of *Snowdon* and its great glacier valleys, will well repay exploration; and to the fisherman there is an additional inducement in 3 lakes, *Llyn Edno*, *Llyn Llagi*, and *Llyn-yr-Adar*. The former in particular is celebrated for its large red trout, which vary from 1 to 2 lbs., and have been caught as large as 6 lbs. They are, however, shy, and the fishing is dangerous on account of the rocks shelving rapidly into very deep water. On *Llyn-yr-Adar* are numbers of the black-backed gulls, which breed on an islet. From hence it is not very far (but difficult walking) to the summit of *Cynicht*, a wild peak belonging to the *Ffestiniog* group (Rte. 19).] [Overlooking the lower end of *Llyn-y-Ddinas* is *Dinas Emrys*, a singular isolated rock clothed on all sides with wood, containing on the summit some faint remains of a building defended by ramparts. According to the legend, *Vortigern*, the British king, spurned by the Saxon *Hengist*, whom he had treacherously introduced into the country, when flying from his own

injured subjects retired to the top of this insulated hill, where he commenced a fort, which fell to pieces as fast as it was raised, until he sent for *Merlin* or *Merddin* and proceeded to construct it conformably with his advice. It was here that the outcast king learned from the seer all the evils that destiny had in store for him; and here, deep in the rock, yet lie buried the golden throne and diamond sword of the enchanter. To him *Vortigern* gave up his residence, himself retiring to *Nant Gwyrtheyrn* (Rte. 15), where he ended his days.

“For thou heardest wise *Merlin* first relate
The destinies’ decree of Britain’s future fate,
Which truly he foretolde proud *Vortiger*
should lose,
As when him from his seat the Saxons should
depose;
And to that mightie king which rashly undertooke
A strong-wall’d tower to reare, those earthly
spirits that shooke
The great foundation still, in *Dragon’s* horrid
shape,
That dreaming wizard told; making the mountaine
gape
With his most powerfull charmes, to view
those caverns deepe;
And from the top of *Britt*, so high and
wondrous steepe,
Where *Dinas Emris* stood, shew’d where the
serpents foughte,
The white that tore the red; from whence
the Prophet wroughte
The Britain’s sad decay then shortly to
ensue.” *Drayton’s Polyolbion.*

From hence the river runs in an exquisitely-wooded vale to 8 m. *Beddgelert*. (Rte. 19.)]

ROUTE 19.

FROM NARVON TO TANYBWLCH,
BY BEDDGELERT, TREMADOC, AND
PORTHMADOC.

A coach runs daily from Caernarvon through Beddgelert and Porthmadoc to Tanybwlech.

$\frac{1}{2}$ m. the road is carried through the ancient Segontium (p. 100) to *Llanbeblig*, the mother church of Caernarvon. The ch., restored in 1842, is a plain battlemented structure with Irish-stepped battlements. It contains some stained glass, and a beautiful alabaster monument, adorned with figures on the sides, to the memory of William Griffith, son of Sir William Griffith, and Margaret his wife. This monument is presumed to have been brought hither from Llanvaes after the spoliation, together with those at Beaumaris, Pennynydd, and Llandegai. *Llanbeblig* is dedicated to St. Peblig or Publicus, a son of Maximus and Helena, and was given by Richard II. to the nuns of St. Mary at Chester.

1 m. the *Seiont* is crossed as it runs from the N.E. in a picturesque dingle. On the opposite bank, and l. of road, is *Glangwma*, the prettily wooded grounds of Mrs. Hunt.

On high ground to rt. is *Penrhos* (Dr. Miller).

At the turnpike a by-road on each side leads l. to Llanrug, and rt. to Pontnewydd.

A considerable extent of bleak high ground is now crossed, and at 4 m. the road descends into the valley of the *Gwrfai*, where the scenery becomes broken and varied. On rt. is the rocky eminence of Moel Smythau, nearly opposite which the bluff smooth heights of Moel Ffilio tower over the village of *Bettws Garmon*. Ironstone has been worked on the sides of this hill; and the

entrance of the levels; and the incline down which the ore was brought, are plainly visible. The ch. of Bettws in its general appearance offers a poor contrast to most of the Caernarvonshire churches, the greater number of which have been restored with laudable good taste.

$6\frac{1}{2}$ m. the scenery improves greatly, and at *Nant Mill* the tourist has one of the most lovely bits in Wales, which has been over and over again transferred to the canvas of numberless artists, who see in the variety of its composition the elements of a perfect landscape. The *Gwrfai* here rushes from *Llyn Cwellyn* over its steep and rocky bed, while on the l. bank a ruined mill is placed, as if on purpose to give effect. On the l. are the thick pine-woods of *Plas-y-Nant*; and on rt. the tremendous precipices of *Craig Cwm Bychan*, and the black glen of *Cwm-ddu*, frown defiance over the lake. These rocks are the escarpment of *Mynydd Mawr*, which intervenes between *Llyn Cwellyn* and the *Nantllef Pass* (Rte. 14); and although very fine over *Drws-y-coed*, they are surpassed in height and grandeur by *Cwmddu*.

Plas-y-Nant was a seat erected by Sir Robert Williams, although it has not been tenanted for many years. It is now the property of Sir R. Williams Bulkeley, Bart., and is in fact ruinous. 7 m. *Llyn Cwellyn* is a very fine sheet of water, about $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. in length, lying in an elongated basin between the spurs of *Moel Goch* and *Moel-y-Cynghorion* on l., and *Mynydd Mawr* (2300 ft.). At its N.W. end the cliffs of *Craig ewnbychan* descend precipitously to the water's edge, and one isolated rock in particular was crowned with an early British fortress, called *Castell Cidwm*, "the Wolf's Castle," of which scarce a trace remains. It most likely obtained its name either

from the savage aspect of the rocks, or from its being the veritable haunt of wild beasts in the days when Snowdon was still a forest. "On the crest of Mynydd Mawr, which overhangs the waters of the lake, was the hold of a robber-chief, who was said to have murdered the brother of Constantine the Great, by shooting him with an arrow as he was passing along the valley below with some soldiers, on the way to meet his mother, who, as she was joyfully advancing to the rencontre, was met near Tan-y-bwlch by the messenger bearing the intelligence of the death of her son. 'Croes awr uni!' she exclaimed in her anguish (Oh! adverse hour for me!); and to this day the spot which witnessed her distress is still called Croes awr."

The scenery of Llyn Cwellyn has been compared to that on the road between Grenoble and Susa. It is, however, rather of a melancholy character, owing to the absence of trees, and to the long barren expanse of hill that slopes down from Snowdon. Towards the further end, 8 m., stands a solitary but comfortable little inn, "*the Snowdon Ranger*," much patronized by anglers in the lake, and those who prefer making their excursion to Snowdon from hence. The landlord acts as guide, and the distance is about $4\frac{1}{2}$ m. (Rte. 17.) The best point for fishing is at the head of the lake, where the water is shallow, and there is a grassy and weedy bottom. The llyn contains char (Welsh "torgoch," red belly), which are taken generally in winter and in deep water. The trout are plentiful, but not large, in consequence of indiscriminate netting, which is now forbidden, the lake being carefully preserved for anglers. There are boats which belong to the hotel, but, as Llyn Cwellyn is subject to violent squalls, fishermen who do not know the water should be particularly

careful when the weather is inclined to be rough. The best flies are red spinner, mackerel, and drake's wing.

The mountain-views from the road are very fine, Moel-y-Wyddfa being a conspicuous object on the l., and the ranges that guard the pass of Drws-y-coed towering one over the other on rt. When rain is impending, or a thunderstorm approaching, it is impossible to exaggerate the grandeur of the different lights and shades. $9\frac{1}{2}$ m., at the turnpike of *Pont-rhyd-ddu*, a bridle-road on rt. leads past Llyn Dywarchen, through the pass of Drws-y-coed, to the lakes of Nantllef (Rte. 14).

10 m. rt., in a wild, barren tableland, is *Llyn-y-gader*, "the Pool of the Chair," a lake of no great size, on which there is a boat belonging to the hotel at Beddgelert. The trout are small, about $\frac{1}{4}$ pound, and very plentiful, but, owing to the boggy shore, a boat is absolutely required. A little further on, at the top of the watershed, on rt., is a large rock or boulder-stone, named *Pitt's Head*, from a singular resemblance to the profile of that statesman. Nearly opposite this rock a path on l. leads to Fridd Uchaf farmhouse, through which the track to Snowdon runs from Beddgelert (Rte. 17). From hence the road runs rapidly down the valley of the Colwyn, the woods, which have been hitherto very scarce, now beginning to fringe the road. On the rt. *Moel Hebog*, the Hill of the Hawk, is a grand object, and, when the lights are good, constantly rivets the attention, from the unceasing changes presented by its scarred and shattered sides. High up on the hills are seen mountain-farms, or *Hafodtai*, "summer-homesteads," on the sheepwalks of which enormous flocks of sheep are pastured. The tourist will frequently have his attention struck by the melancholy sound of a

horn, which is used by the inmates of the farms to call the shepherds to their meals. When the clouds are low down on the mountains the wailing notes have a singularly weird effect. The vale becomes deeper and more beautifully wooded, and at 13 m. unites with the exquisite valley of Nant Gwynant, at that gem of Welsh villages *Beddgelert*. Crossing the Colwyn a little before its junction with the Glaslyn, the tourist arrives at the Goat Hotel, a large ivy-covered house, very comfortable, and usually full to the brim of visitors. There is a small roadside inn in the village, the Prince Llewelyn. Placed in a deep dell at the junction of these valleys, and guarded by the towering heights of Moel Hebog, Yr Aran, and the precipitous ridge of Craig-y-Llan, *Beddgelert* seems made for seclusion; and it seems only natural that there should have been here a religious establishment of Augustine canons, "The Home of the Valley of the Blessed Mary of Snowdon." It was a place of some importance, as being the resting-place of pilgrims on their way from Ireland. Llewelyn ap Iorwerth appears either to have founded it, or to have been a great benefactor. But very little is known of its history, as the buildings, together with the muniments, were destroyed by fire. The ch. was probably the conventual ch., and is an Early Pointed building of the reign of Edward I. It is a simple single-aisled building, lighted at the E. end by 3 lofty lancet windows. In the interior are 2 blocked Early Pointed aisles, which formerly led into the N. aisle. The visitor will notice the curious custom that prevails here, as also in many Welsh churches, of hanging up the coffin-plates containing the names of the deceased over their pews.

Every tourist is familiar with the story of Llewelyn and his hound Gelert. Llewelyn came to this place

during the hunting season, with his child, who, left unprotected, was attacked by a wolf which had entered the house. On his return from the hunt he was met by Gelert, wagging his tail, but covered with blood, "*faucibus sanguinolentis*." Alarmed at the sight, and thinking that the dog had injured the child, the impetuous prince drew his dagger and slew his hound. But, on entering, the dead body of the wolf too late disclosed to him the fatal mistake and the fidelity of Gelert, to whose memory, in grief for his good dog, he made a tomb, and called the unfortunate spot *Beddgelert*. This tomb is said to exist in a field close to the ch., which may very likely be quite true; nor would any one of the least taste disturb by doubts so affecting a legend. The tradition has been preserved and prettily transferred to verse by the late Hon. William Spencer:—

"Ah, what was then Llewelyn's pain!
For now the truth was clear;
The gallant hound the wolf had slain
To save Llewelyn's heir."

Many beautiful excursions may be made from *Beddgelert*—to Snowdon (Rte. 17), Nant Gwynant, Dinas Emrys, and Capel Curig, Moel Hebog, &c.

Distances.—Snowdon, 6 m.; Capel Curig, 12; Dinas Emrys, $1\frac{1}{2}$; Llyn-y-gader, $3\frac{1}{2}$; Moel Hebog, 2; Pont Aberglaslyn, $1\frac{1}{2}$; Tremadoc, 7; Tanybwlech by old road, 10.

[A most magnificent view is obtainable from *Moel Hebog*, which rises immediately behind the Goat to a height of 2850 ft. The ascent presents no difficulties, although it is extremely rough and steep, and an active climber may ascend in a direct line from the hotel. There are two farms at the foot, for which the pedestrian had better steer, and from thence he may climb the shoulder. There is a very fine cwm on the N.E. side, but, generally

speaking, although of a broken surface, it is without those Alpine glens which are so characteristic of this district. The view extends up to Pen-y-gwryd on the E., with Llyn Gwynant and Dinas, and over the peninsula of Llyn, the Bay of Cardigan, down to St. David's Head on the W. and S. From the same side there is an easy slope to Penmorfa and Criceith.]

Moel Hebog is considered by the guides an unerring barometer as regards the ascent to Snowdon, to attempt which is useless when the former mountain is covered with clouds.

From Beddgelert the road continues along the rt. bank of the Glasllyn, which, from a cheerful mountain-stream, begins to assume the character of a rapid torrent. The hills on each side become more naked, wild, and precipitous, and at $13\frac{1}{2}$ m. approach each other so nearly as to scarce leave room for the river as it rushes through the pass of *Pont Aberglasllyn*, one of the most striking of all the North Welsh scenes. A terrace-road has been formed, at great expense, out of the solid rock. Under whatever circumstances this pass is beheld, it will always strongly impress the tourist, whether it be in stormy weather, when the clouds are drifting rapidly over the summit of the cliffs, or whether it be in the full radiance of a summer-day, when each bit of rock has its own colour and beauty. This is undoubtedly one of the most grand and romantic defiles in the country :—

“ Where the blue Glasllyn hurries her fleet course

To wanton on the yellow level sands,
On either side, in their ascent abrupt,
The rocks, like barriers that in elder times
Walled the huge cities of the Anakim,
Upblacken to the sky, whose tender hue
With mild relief salutes the o'erlabour'd
sight.”—*Milman*.

The lover of the picturesque should

view the scene from about 100 yards down the Tremadoc road, and should then walk leisurely through the pass for about $\frac{1}{2}$ m. In a carriage he will be hurried too rapidly past the beauties of the scene. On the rt. rises a mountain precipice, probably 800 ft. high, lowering over the road; its rugged surface is tinged with a russet hue, barely modified by a scanty tint of green from the partial vegetation growing upon it. At the foot the Glasllyn rolls its clear waters, which have a singular beryl-green colour. This scene forms the great charm to the neighbourhood of Beddgelert; one cannot but regret that it is so short.

“ He led him on

Till now the black and shaggy pass spreads out

To a green quiet valley. . . .

. The stream

Here curl'd more wanton, lightly wafting down

The last thin golden leaves the alder drops,
Like fairy-barges skimming the blue waves.”—*Milman's Samor*.

The geologist must look out for striations and glacier-groovings, a notice of which is given in the late Dr. Buckland's own writing, to be seen in the hotel. At the Merionethshire entrance a stone bridge of one arch crosses the river, carrying the old road to Tanybwle, which from the turnpike is about $8\frac{1}{4}$ m. There used to be a salmon-leap at this bridge, but, owing to changes made in the bed of the stream by the torrent, the ledge up which they used to leap has been carried away. Sewin and salmon are in the habit of coming up the river in considerable quantities, but poaching is carried on to such an extent that the sport is good for little. [The old road to *Tanybwle* had better be taken by pedestrians who wish to reach it at once; but parties in conveyances must go round by Tremadoc, as the road is level and in good order, whereas the former is impassable to vehicles.

1½ m. l. is *Dolfrïog*, the seat of Mrs. Jackson. At 2 m. a bridle-road l. runs up the vale of Nant-y-Mor, at the bend of which the tourist should turn to the rt., and breast the slopes of the hill above Cwm Celli Iago, from which some sharp climbing will place him at the head of the cone at the summit of *Cynicht*, which rises to the height of 2372 ft. It is an ascent rarely undertaken, but it is well worth the trouble for the sake of the magnificent view. Snowdon lies to the N., with all its concomitant ranges, and to the E. is the mighty jagged mountain of Moelwyn, separated only by the deep Cwm Croesor.

From the summit of *Cynicht* the pedestrian may extend his excursion N. along the ridge of Craig-y-llyn-Llgi, and visit the lakes of Llyn-Llgi, Llyn-yr-Adar, Llyn-Edno, and several smaller ones (Rte. 17), and then descend either into Nant Gwynant on l., or over the Lledr to Dolwyddelan on rt. At 4 m. a road l. branches off to Cwm Croesor, to Moelwyn, which is ascended very easily on this side, though doubtless most tourists would prefer going up from Tanybwlech.

5¾ m. on rt. is the village of *Llanfrothen*.

From hence the road winds up steep hills, past Plas Tanybwlech, and crossing the Ffestiniog Rly. to Tanybwlech.] The road from Pont Aberglaslyn to Tremadoc is at a considerable level above the river, overshadowed by a long range of rocks, which in fact keep company with it for the whole distance. Looking back, a very beautiful view of Snowdon, Yr Aran, *Cynicht*, and Moelwyn is obtained. The river, immediately after its impetuous rush through the pass, becomes broad, deep, and sedate—in fact a tidal river—winding its way through an alluvial flat, which at once suggests the probability that the sea formerly came up very nearly to Bedd-

gelert itself. 17½ m. rt. *Aberdeunant Hall* (Captain Peel); after passing which the road diverges from the river, which fairly enters the wide level of *Traeth Mawr*.

Still hugging the shade of the slate-rocks, which, with their precipitous sides lined with overhanging brushwood, form always a picturesque feature, the tourist soon arrives at 20 m. *Tremadoc*. On the outside of the town are the hanging woods and groves of Tanyrallt, a very pretty residence built by the late Mr. Maddocks, and now the seat of W. Prosser, Esq. Tremadoc (*Hotel: Maddocks, Arms, comfortable*) is a neat little town, erected after a regular design by Mr. Maddocks, the great benefactor of all this district. It is in the form of a square, and contains a market-house and a neat little ch. with a spire and a very florid portal. It stands on the western side and a little above the *Traeth Mawr*, which owes its reclamation from the sea entirely to the same indefatigable projector. As early as 1625 the scheme of rescuing the tracts struck the attention of Sir John Wynn of Gwydir, a very energetic and useful man in his day, who, unable to commence the speculation by himself, tried to induce Sir Hugh Myddleton, of New River celebrity, to join him. Sir Hugh, being at the time fully busy with his own undertakings, declined, and the plan therefore fell through, and remained *in statu quo* until 1800, when Mr. Maddocks, with more success, reclaimed the land on the W. side of the river, thus gaining 2000 fertile acres. He then proceeded to convert the drowned lands within the *Traeth* by extending an embankment across the arm of the sea, for which purpose he obtained an act in 1807 giving him possession of the whole range of sands from Aberglaslyn. The latter stupendous undertaking, however, on which he expended a fortune, has not been attended with complete

success; since the wall, in spite of its thickness, is not water-tight, and the sea pouring in at high tides converts the greater part of the space behind it into a vast lake. At the further extremity of the dyke the river Glaslyn is crossed by a strong stone bridge, between the arches of which are stout flood-gates, closed at high water to prevent the entrance of the sea, and opened as the tide recedes, to allow the accumulated waters of the Glaslyn, the recipient of all the numerous streams which form themselves into this extensive estuary, to discharge themselves. Its channel has been considerably enlarged, and its banks protected by smaller dykes, to restrain it from flooding the surrounding district; and similar precautions have been taken to a considerable extent with the minor streams its tributaries. The length of the embankment is about 1 m., the breadth being 100 ft. at the base and 30 at the top, along which the road to Tanybwch and the Ffestiniog Rly. are carried. The total cost of this great undertaking, by which 7000 acres were reclaimed, was over 100,000*l*.

The road from Tremadoc to Porthmadoc crosses the land just recovered from the sea: where it runs, boats were navigated less than 60 years ago; its surface is still mere sand, and it is in places 3 ft. lower than the level of high tide. Part of it was then a saltmarsh, upon which a few sheep found pasturage, and were liable to be driven by high tides to take refuge on the rocky eminences rising out of the plain, which were once islets.

PORTHMADOC (*Hotel: Commercial*), Stat. on Cambrian Rly. for Pwllheli and the South, also for Ffestiniog Quarries (Rte. 20), is a rising little port doing a large business in the exportation of slates, which are brought down from Ffestiniog slate-quarries by rly. In the very heart

of the town is *Morfa Lodge*, another seat of the late Mr. Maddocks, situated under a high ridge of rocks called *Moel-y-Gest*, which overlooks the sea, and from the summit of which is a splendid view of the Merionethshire coast. The tourist who is curious in slates should pay a visit to the wharf, where he will find every variety of size and thickness ready packed in stacks, as well as an ingenious instrument for cutting them to the required pattern.

2 m. on the Criceith road is the village of *Penmorfa*, the ch. of which contains a monument to Sir John Owen of Clenenney, who was taken prisoner at the battle of Llandegai by Gen. Mytton at the head of the Parliamentary army. After his defeat he was brought up for trial in company with Lord Holland and others, and sentenced to be beheaded, when it is recorded of him that he made a low bow to his judges, and thanked them for their unexpected clemency. On being asked wherefore, he replied "that it was a great honour for him to lose his head in such good company, for that he was afraid that he should have been hung," which ready answer procured him a pardon. Close by is *Y Wern* (N. Mathew, Esq.). The geology of the country round Tremadoc is very interesting, and affords typical sections of the lower rocks. Here are seen the equivalents of the upper Longmynd rocks, which are immediately overlaid by the *Lingula* flags, the equivalents of the strata at the Stiper stones. In the lower *Lingula* flags, *Lingula Davisii*, so much affected by cleavage as to have assumed the forms of distinct genera, is plentiful, together with the crustacean known as *Hymenocaris vermicauda*. The upper *Lingula* flags, as seen at Penmorfa, *Y Wern*, and the base of *Moel-y-Gest*, contain in addition, the *Agnostus*, *Conocephalus*, and *Ellipsocephalus* (?) depressus, "while a black slaty layer has been detected in this zone, whose

surface is covered by the Graptopora, showing an undisturbed state of the former sea bottom. The highest flags of this zone, as seen at Porthmadoc, have afforded trilobites referred by Mr. Salter to the genera *Asaphus* and *Ogygia*, these genera being characteristic of the overlying Llandeilo flags.”—*Siluria*. There is a dangerous ferry to Harlech about 1 m. below Porthmadoc, the channel being about 2 m. across; inquiries must be made about the tide by the pedestrian.

Conveyances.—Rly. to Pwllheli, Dolgelley, and the South; rly. to Ffestiniog Quarries. Coaches to Caernarvon and Tanybwlech.

Distances.—Cricceith, 5m.; Pwllheli, 13; Caernarvon, 21; Tanybwlech, 7; Ffestiniog, 10; Penmorfa, 2; Pontaberglaslyn, $6\frac{1}{2}$; *Dolbenmaen*, $4\frac{1}{2}$ [to which place an excursion may be made, following the old Caernarvon road towards Penygroes. There was at one time a circular tower, similar to the one at Dolbadarn. Some cromlechs still exist on the banks of the Dwyfawr, between Llanystumdwy and Dolbenmaen. *Brynkir* is the seat of G. A. Huddart, Esq.]

The road to Tanybwlech is carried across the embankment, together with the Ffestiniog Rly., to a tongue of land lying between the *Traeth Mawr* and *Traeth Bach*, a similar expanse of sand at the mouth of the Dwyryd. Ieland, speaking of this place, says, “Bytwyxt *Traethmaure* and *Traethvelian*, a mile thorough a point of wood caullid Penryn Duetith, as yn the myddle, renwith at low water through the *Traeth Maur Warth*, Glesse-llinne water, and divideth Henionith of Caeraryonshir from Merionethshir. Al Penrine pointe is in Merionithshir.” The views towards Snowdon and up the valley towards Maentwrog are very beautiful.

Passing *Plas Penrhyn* (S. Holland,

Esq.) and *Castle Deudraeth* (the fine seat of D. Williams, Esq.), the tourist arrives at, 28 m., the very comfortable haven of *Tanybwlech Inn* (Rte. 21). Close by the inn is *Plas Tan-y-bwlch*, the seat of Mrs. Oakley, in the beautiful grounds of which the visitor may wander at will and feast his eyes on the lovely views of the vale of Dwyryd. Anybody staying at the hotel should apply at the bar for a ticket, which will gain him admission into the walks. The approach to them is by a road through the wood carried along the shoulder of the hill. The terrace in front of the mansion overlooks to great advantage the whole valley upwards as far as Ffestiniog.

Distances.—Ffestiniog, 3 m.; Rhaiadr Ddu, $2\frac{1}{4}$; Maentwrog, $\frac{1}{4}$; Harlech, 10; Slate Quarries, 5; Porthmadoc, 7; Pont Aberglaslyn, $8\frac{1}{2}$; Trawsfynydd, 6; Rhaiadr Cynfael, $3\frac{1}{2}$; Rhaiadr Cwm, 6; Dolgelley, by Trawsfynydd, 18—by Harlech, 30.

ROUTE 20.

FROM PORTHMADOC TO FFESTINIOG
QUARRIES, BY RAIL—MOELWYN.

There are 5 trains each way daily, but on Mondays and Saturdays the times are different from those of the other days. The Stats. are Penrhyn,

Hafod-y-Llyn, Tan-y-grisiau, and Diffwys.

The views in the ascent from Penrhyn to Hafod-y-Llyn, which overlooks the coast as far as Harlech and the Bay of Cardigan, are exceedingly fine. *Hafod-y-Llyn* is the stat. for Maentwrog, and the hotel at Tanybwlech, through the grounds of which the line runs. The best starting-point for the ascent of *Moelwyn* is Tan-y-grisiau, where a little stream descends from Cwm Orthin. Follow the stream beyond the lake and climb the steep of Moel-y-Rhudd, from which a rocky ridge leads to the summit 2566 ft. above the sea. The way is broken and difficult, but only requires common mountain qualifications. The ascent up the western arm from the Beddgelert road is practicable for a pony. On the E. and N. sides the face of the mountain is marked by deep cwms, the rocks on each side rising up in more jagged and broken form than is exhibited by any other mountain in Wales. Geologically speaking, all this group consists of porphyries and embedded ash thrown up at a time of great disturbance during the deposition of the Llandeilo flags. They are consequently of an older epoch than the embedded ashes of the Snowdon group, which belong to the Bala series.

Soon after leaving *Tan-y-grisiau* the rly. bifurcates, one line going to the rt. to the quarries at Diffwys, which are situated on the western slopes of the *Manods*, two conspicuous mountains on the opposite side of the vale, between which is Llyn-y-Manod, a lake of some size.

The other part of the line goes straight up to the head of the glen to the quarries at *Rhiwbriwdir*, from whence the tourist can ascend Moelwyn or cross the hills to Dolwyddelan. There is an inn at the quarries called the Five Crowns.

The quarries are situated on the side of Yr Allt Fawr, a bold outline of the Moelwyn group. For irregularity of

outline and wild scenery they far surpass any of the other Welsh quarries. A large population numbering nearly 3000 is scattered about in the valley which runs up between Moelwyn and the Manods, and for their accommodation a neat church, schools, and dissenting chapels in plenty have been built by the owners of the property. The rows of cottages do not, as one might imagine, seem at variance with the scenery, but from the sombre colour of the stone they harmonize well with the grey rocks around. The quarries are hewn out of the face of the mountain, each stage being gained successively by inclined planes. The scene at the uppermost level is of a very singular character, an enormous amphitheatre, seamed in every direction by dark-looking holes into which tramroads of lilliputian size are carried along the ledges. To watch the employment it appears hazardous enough, though, as a whole, serious accidents are not so common as might be expected. There is an hospital at Blaenau for the reception of such cases. The principal quarries are on the property of Mrs. Oakley, of Plas Tanybwlech, who is the largest landowner in this district, and are partly worked by the Welsh Slate Company, a joint-stock concern, in which the late Lord Palmerston had a considerable share. The slates are taken down in wooden and iron trams to Porthmadoc, the incline being sufficiently great to allow the trains to go down of their own gravity. From the quarries there is a good road to Dolwyddelan, crossing the mountain at Bwlch-y-gerddinen, from whence there is a splendid view of Moel Siabod. It then descends a little stream to the valley of the Lledr. Dolwyddelan (Rte. 12) is between 5 and 6 m. from the quarries.

ROUTE 21.

FROM TANYBWLCH TO OSWESTRY,
BY FFESTINIOG, BALA, AND LLAN-
RHAIDR.

No conveyance of any sort traverses this road, which for the greater portion is almost the wildest in Wales. Notwithstanding its bleak and desolate character, the mountain views will well repay the tourist.

From the Tanybwlech Inn the roads on either side of the Dwyryd may be taken. The one most usually followed is on the l. bank, turning off at the turnpike gate just before entering Maentwrog, though the bowery lane on the opposite side is far more pleasant and picturesque, and perfectly commodious for carriages. Both roads join at Talybont, where the river Cynfael is crossed by a new and lofty stone bridge, very near its confluence with the Dwyryd. From thence the road ascends a steep hill, at the top of which is *Bryn Llewelyn* (W. D. Oliver, Esq.), commanding as lovely a prospect as any house could possibly do. The beauty of the valley looking down towards Maentwrog and Porthmadoc is most exquisite, the woods on either side hanging over the vale, through which the Dwyryd winds like a silver thread, while opposite are the jagged outlines of Moelwyn and its subordinate heights, lighted up with every shade of colour.

The *Vale of Ffestiniog*, like most of the celebrated Welsh valleys, has been criticised with great variety of

opinion. Lord Lyttleton wrote in 1756, "At each end of the vale of Ffestiniog are high mountains which seemed placed there to guard this charming retreat against any invasions. With the woman one loves, with the friend of one's heart, and a good library of books, one might pass an age there and think it a day." Perched on a hill at the head of the vale is, 3 m., the little town of *Ffestiniog*, lit. "the Place of Hastening" (*Inns*: Pengwern Arms, Newborough Arms), in itself containing nothing of interest, but placed in the centre of as lovely scenery as is to be found in the country. The ch. is a modern Norm. erection, placed at the edge of the cliff overlooking the vale. A path leads from the town across a field to the wooded banks of the *Cynfael*, which rushes down the glen in a succession of romantic falls of much beauty but of no great height. The upper one, which is above the rustic bridge which here crosses the stream, is formed by three steep rocks, while the characteristic of the lower fall is a shelving rock about 40 ft. in height. Between this last and the bridge is a tall rock called *Hugh Lloyd's Pulpit*, the scene of a legend about an enchanter who was accustomed to hold forth from thence. *Hymenophyllum Tunbridgensense* and *H. Willsoni* grow near it.

Distances.—Tanybwlech, 3 m.; Slate Quarries, $4\frac{1}{2}$; Dolwyddelan Castle, about 8; Rhaiadr Cwm, 3; Bala, 19; Yspytty Evan, 11; Penmachno, $10\frac{1}{2}$; Llanrwst, 18; Llangynog, 32.

Just outside Ffestiniog is a road on rt. which runs across the Cynfael to join the Trawsfynydd and Dolgelley road. $4\frac{1}{2}$ m., a little to the l., is an eminence on which were formerly a number of graves called *Beddau-gwyr-Ardudwy* (the graves of the men of Ardudwy). In the time of Gibson, the editor of Camden's 'Britannia,' there were at least 30 headstones, of which now only 2 remain.

A curious tradition is told of them, viz. "that certain men of Ardudwy made an incursion into the distant vale of Clwyd¹ in order to steal away certain fair ladies, inhabitants of that vale. Their errand was so far crowned with success that they not only bore away their prize in triumph, but gained the hearts of the damsels also. The friends and neighbours of the stolen ones, regarding this conduct with dislike, went in search of the fugitives, and overtook them near this place. An engagement ensued, during which the ladies, perceiving their new friends worsted and eventually slain, threw themselves into a lake at the foot of the hill, rather than go home." A Roman road passes through the centre of this graveyard, and, however pleasing the tradition, it is most probable that it only served as a place of interment for some defunct Roman soldiers. This road, which is, in fact, the famous *Sarn Helen*—or, as Drayton calls it, "Saint Hellen's wondrous way"—runs due N., crossing a little river at Rhyd-yr-Helen, or Helen's Ford, and there breasts a very steep hill, on the other side of which it descends through the Cwm Penamnen to Dolwyddelan (Rte. 12). Southwards it crosses the hill to Castell Tomen-y-Mur, or the station of Heriri Mons (Rte. 22). The Helen or Helena commemorated in these places was the wife of the Emperor Maximus, the same after whom so many of the works near Segontium were called. 6 m. l. is Llyn *Morwynion*, or the Maidens' Lake, alluded to in the legend of the men of Ardudwy. On rt. is *Rhaiadr Cwm*, a most romantic glen, through which the Cynfael makes its way, after falling perpendicularly over a series of deeply-cleft precipices. To see this portion of the stream to advantage the pedestrian should, after visiting the waterfalls close to Ffestiniog, follow it up past Pont Newydd, and so to *Rhaiadr Cwm*, the whole

distance abounding in scenes of the most thoroughly Welsh and romantic character.

[$6\frac{1}{2}$ m. a road on l. branches to the N. for nearly 2 m., when it divides on the l. to Penmachno and Llanrwst, and on rt. to Ysptyty Evan and Pentrevoelas. To Penmachno it is 7 m. from Pont-ar-Afon Gam, although there is a shorter mountain lane of 9 m. from the former village to Ffestiniog. The road is wild and solitary, passing over a large tract of mountain known as Migneint, which gives rise to the Conway, Tryweryn, and other smaller streams. At $4\frac{1}{2}$ m. the valley of the Machno is entered and the l. bank of the river followed to 7 m. *Penmachno*, a prettily-situated village, the houses of which are curiously clustered in a circle round the ch. It is a good station for anglers who do not mind roughing it, as it is the nearest village to Llyn Conway, between 3 and 4 m. to the S. At Penmachno the stream is crossed, and the road thence follows the rt. bank for $2\frac{1}{4}$ m. to join the great Holyhead road between Pentrevoelas and Betws-y-coed. At the junction of the 2 roads are the Falls of the Machno (Rte. 13).]

[The 2nd road, equally mountainous and desolate, branches off to the N.E. at Ffynnon Eiddew, 2 m. from Pont-ar-Afon Gam, from which place to Ysptyty Evan it is $7\frac{1}{2}$ m. At 3 m. the infant Conway is crossed, soon after it has issued from *Llyn Conway*, a rather large sheet of water, surrounded on all sides by barren hills. There is good fishing in it, although the number of turbaries or peat-bogs make it somewhat difficult of access. "It contains two perfectly distinct species of trout, one of which, a dark, ugly fish, cuts as red as salmon."—*Cliffe*. The road follows the l. bank of the river to $7\frac{1}{2}$ m. *Ysptyty Evan*, where in former days stood an "Hospitium," or sanctuary

for travellers over that bleak country, founded by the order of the Knights of Jerusalem. Subsequently the village became the head-quarters of bands of robbers, who devastated the whole district until checked by Meredydd ap Evan, who had taken up his quarters at Dolwyddelan (Rte. 12). The ch. contains 3 monumental figures commemorating Rhys Fawr ap Meredydd, Henry VII.'s standard-bearer at the battle of Bosworth; his son, Robert ap Rhys, chaplain to Cardinal Wolsey; and 3rd, Iowry, wife of the last-named. From Yspytty Evan it is $2\frac{1}{4}$ m. to Pentrevoelas (Rte. 13).]

For many miles the road winds over the bleakest and highest ground in Wales, without passing a trace of habitation. 10 m. is the watershed, and at a little distance on rt. is *Llyn Tryweryn*, the source of the river of the same name, which flows from hence, between the Arenigs, to join the Dee at Bala Lake. The N. and E. shores of this small lake are traversed by a bridle-road which branches off at Rhyd-y-fen to Castell-Prysor and Trawsfynydd, where it joins the Dolgelley road (Rte. 22). The fishing in this lake is poor. Besides this latter mountain road, another meets the turnpike at Pont-rhyd-y-fen, by following which the pedestrian may save a couple of miles to Bala. 13 m. at *Rhyd-y-fen* is a small roadside public-house. Immediately overhanging the road is the lofty eminence of *Arenig Vach*, which, with its sister-mountain *Arenig Vawr*, forms one of the finest groups of the hills of Merionethshire. Under the precipices of the northern escarpment lies *Llyn Arenig Vach*, which, with a slight breeze, affords some very fine sport. At its lower end there is an artificial embankment, and a small brook runs from it to join the Gelyn. About 2 m. to the S. of Rhyd-y-fen is *Arenig Fawr*, which rises to the height of 2809 ft. (105 ft. lower than

Cader Idris). From the summit there is a magnificent view of the Bala district and all the hills round Dinas-Mowddwy and Mallwyd. The rocks of the Arenigs consist of the same igneous porphyries as those of Moelwyn and the Ffestiniog group. The geologist en route for Bala soon finds that the country to the E. and rising up towards Cerrig-y-druidion on the N. is composed of the fossiliferous Bala limestone, resting on the flanks of these igneous mountains, which, it must be remembered, were erupted previous to those of Snowdon. *Llyn Arenig Vawr* is an immensely deep pool of considerable size, and contains fine trout, but remarkably shy.

15 m. the river Gelyn is crossed, just at its junction with the Tryweryn, the valley of which is followed to $22\frac{1}{2}$ m. *Bala* (*Hotels*: Plascoch; White Lion; Bull's Head), passing Rhiwlas, the seat of the Price family. Bala with the lake is fully described in Rte. 3. The road to Llanrhaiadr is taken over the flat alluvial plain at the head of the lake, crossing the Dee immediately as it flows out. On rt. a road runs down the eastern shores to Dinas Mowddwy and Mallwyd (Rte. 23). Close to the roadside on rt. is *Castell Gronw*, the fortress of a British chief of that name who lived in the time of Maelgwyn Gwynedd. $24\frac{1}{2}$ m. the *Hirnant* is crossed—a small stream which runs a most picturesque course through the heart of those mountains which unite the Arans and Berwyns. [A bridle-road traverses the dingle to the head of the Hirnant, and crosses the watershed to the valley of the Fyrnwy. About 1 m. is *Plas Rhiwaeodog*, near which a severe battle was fought between the Britons and Saxons, when the aged Llywarch lost his only surviving son.

3 m. is *Aberhirnant*, the beautifully-situated residence of H. Richardson, Esq., above which rises a steep range

of precipices called Craig-moel-y-dinas.]

25½ m. the road runs very near the Dee, winding at the foot of a thickly-wooded bluff. On the opposite bank is Bodweni (E. Jones, Esq.).

26½ m., near Pont Calettwr, a road on l. branches to LLANDRILLO STAT., 4½ m., and, being joined near Llanderfel by the road on the l. bank of the Dee, becomes the nearest road to Corwen, through the vale of Edeyrnion (Rte. 3). From this point the pleasant valleys and rivers are again left behind for a season, while the route climbs the steep and wild ranges of the *Berwyns*. These mountains, which, for more than 30 miles, constitute the division between the counties of Merioneth and Montgomery, the boundary-lines being carried along the summits, form part of the great backbone of N. Wales. The general group commences between Machynlleth and Dinas Mowddwy, to the N. of which it has a tendency to divide, the range to the W. culminating in the Arans, and on the E. in the Berwyns. The whole of these mountains, with the Arenigs on the W., form an enormous basin, of which Bala Lake is the centre. Notwithstanding their immense extent, but few rivers of any importance take their rise in the Berwyns, although there are a multitude of small streams dividing the secondary ranges into little valleys. The 2 principal rivers are the Tanat and Vyrnwy, both flowing E. or S.E. towards the Severn. The highest points of the mountains are Cader Berwyn, or Ferwyn, 2562 ft., and Cader Fronwen to the N., overlooking Llandrillo and the vale of Edeyrnion. The road is carried up the side of the valley of the little river Calettwr, meeting at 29 m. a road to Llandrillo, 3½ m. At 31 m. the highest pass of the Berwyns is crossed, and the road enters the head

of a narrow vale that joins that of the Tanat, this portion of it being called Miltir-gerig, "the stony mile." As the tourist descends the pretty dingle of the Eiarth he feels that he has at last shaken off the mountains with which he has kept company so long, and farm-houses, green fields, and woods acquire an additional charm in his eyes. 35 m. *Llangynnog*, a small Montgomeryshire village which has obtained some importance from the lead-mines in the parish. A very large one, Craig-y-mwyn, was opened in 1692 and worked for many years, yielding an annual revenue of 20,000*l.* a year, it is said, to the Powis family. The concern was stopped by an irruption of water, but was again commenced by a company who have worked it with varying success. The mine is about 2 m. from the village, in the range of hills which intervene between the valleys of the Tanat and Rhaiadr. There are some other mines nearer Llangynnog, as also a slate-quarry. The situation of this village is picturesque in the extreme—at the confluence of the Tanat and the Eiarth, above which on the N. the enormous hill of Craig Rhiwarth towers precipitously, an equally lofty though less abrupt range sheltering it on the S.

This formation, of which the great mass of the Berwyns is composed, is of the age of the Llandeilo rocks. On the eastern flank, black slates, identical with Llandeilo formation elsewhere, may be seen to be overlaid by calcareous flagstones, well exposed at Llanrhaiadr. "The masses, more or less calcareous, have a thickness of 400 or 500 ft., and are laden in their lower part with *Asaphus tyrannus*, *enerinites*, and corals; and in their higher portion with *Trinucleus concentricus*, *Acidaspis*, *Lepæna sericea*, *Orthis turgida*, &c."—*Siluria*. All these strata pass at an angle of about 25° underneath the Bala or Caradoc sandstones. A railway has been proposed from Shrews-

bury and Llanfyllin to Llangynnog, from which place it was intended to tunnel through the Berwyns to Llandrillo, and from thence to Bala.

Distances.—Llanrhaiadr yn Mochnant, 5 m.; Bala, 12½; Ffestiniog, 32; Llanfyllin, 7; [*Pennant Melangell*, 2½, to which place no tourist should omit a visit, on account of its singular ch. It is a long building, divided into a nave and chancel by a wooden screen, and has at the western end a very primitive tower. A more ancient edifice probably stood here, as in the S. wall are the capitals of 4 Norm. shafts built into the wall, but turned upside down. The most interesting feature, however, is the carved woodwork, representing the legend of St. Monacella, the figures ingeniously grouped in compartments, supposed to be formed by recesses in the branches of the forest. The tale runs that St. Monacella was the daughter of an Irish monarch, who had vowed celibacy, and, in consequence of her father wishing her to marry one of his noblemen, fled hither, and dwelt in strict retirement, not even seeing the face of man for 15 years. One day Brochwel Yseythrog, Prince of Powis, being out hunting, was surprised to find in the depths of the forest a virgin of great beauty engaged in devotion, whilst the hare which he had been pursuing fled to her for refuge, and boldly faced the dogs. They did not dare to pursue her, neither could the huntsman withdraw his horn from his lips. Brochwel heard her story, and gave to God, and to her, land to be a sanctuary for all that fled there. St. Monacella forthwith became the patron saint of hares, “and till the last cent. so strong a superstition prevailed, that no person would kill a hare in the parish; and even later, when a hare was pursued by dogs, it was firmly believed that if any one cried, ‘God and St. Monacella be with

thee!’ it was sure to escape.”—*Pennant*. The whole of this pretty legend is told on the carving, which was formerly painted over with bright colours, now faded. The figures occur in the following order. On the l. is Brochwel on horseback, the huntsman with the horn stuck to his lips, St. Monacella, the hare running for protection, the hounds pursuing. In the ch. yard are 2 mutilated recumbent figures, one representing St. Monacella, and the other said to be the effigy of Iorwerth Drwyndyn, or Broken-nose, who formerly lived at Dolwyddelan.]

From Llangynnog the road follows the rt. bank of the Tanat, which speedily increases in volume as the vale becomes more open. There is a very picturesque defile at 37 m., soon after which the river is crossed at Penybont, the road on rt. keeping straight on through the villages of Llangedwin and Llanyblodwell, until it becomes merged in a network of routes between Oswestry and Welshpool. 40 m. *Llanrhaiadr yn Mochnant* (*Inn*, Wynnstay Arms), a small though prettily situated village on the Rhaiadr, an affluent of the Tanat. Except for the scenery in the neighbourhood there is nothing to detain the tourist. Llanrhaiadr was rather celebrated for its incumbents, one of whom, Dr. Morgan, Bishop of Llandaff, and subsequently of St. Asaph, in 1601, was the first translator of the Bible into Welsh.

[4 m. from Llanrhaiadr is *Pistyll Rhaiadr*, said to be the most lofty cataract in North Wales. The road leads up the l. bank of the Rhaiadr, through a wild and savage glen, rising from the E. flank of the Berwyns. The waterfall occurs about 1½ m. from the head of the glen, and is upwards of 240 ft. in height. “For about 2-3rds of this space the water slides down the flat face of a naked rock; it rages then through a

natural arch, and, passing between 2 prominent sides, falls into a basin." The dark, barren appearance of the rocks and hills around give this waterfall a very characteristic effect, very different from those of Rhaiadr Wenol or Dolgarrog. The river takes its rise in a small tarn, *Llyn Caws*, which lies in a deep cwm at the foot of Cader Berwyn. The cliffs can be scaled with some little difficulty, and the Cader ascended. It is 2715 ft. in height.]

From Llanrhaiadr there is a choice of roads to Oswestry: a hilly road to the N., about 12 m.; or, following the Tanat nearly as far as Llanyblodwell, 14 m. 46½ m. l. is the village of Llansilin; and 49 m. l. *Llanvordda*, the seat of H. B. W. Wynn, Esq. 52 m. Oswestry (*Hotel, Wynnstay Arms*, excellent). (Rte. 26.)

ROUTE 22.

FROM TANYBWLCH TO MACHYNLLETH, BY MAENTWROG, TRAWSFYNYDD, AND DOLGELLEY. ASCENT OF CADER IDRIS.

Quitting Tanybwlech, and crossing the Dwyryd, the tourist arrives at *Maentwrog* (*Inn: Grapes*), a little town, or rather village, in a very lovely situation under a high wooded bank. It derives its name from a stone in the churchyard, dedi-

cated to St. Twrog, who flourished about 610. Good lodgings can be obtained, and travellers who wish to explore the vale of Ffestiniog at leisure cannot do better than fix their quarters here. [1¼ m. l. is the glen of the little river Rhydfach, up which a path runs for 1 m. to the waterfall of Rhaiadr Ddu (the Black Cataract). Although the height is not great, it is a beautiful fall on account of the large body of water which is thrown over 3 black smooth rocks. Higher up there is the Raven Fall, deriving most of its beauty from the wild loveliness of the glen. A guide to these falls lives at Maentwrog, and can be engaged by inquiring at the hotel. It is not desirable to undertake this excursion without a guide of some sort, not that there is the slightest danger, but that it is difficult to find one's way from the Rhaiadr Ddu to the upper fall. A bridle-road to l. leads to Harlech, the old road, indeed, which runs past Llyn Tecwyn and the village of Llan-deewyn.]

From Maentwrog there are two roads, the one which branches off at the turnpike being the best, although a little further round. They both reunite at 2½ m. Tafarn-helig, soon after which another road on l. goes off to Ffestiniog, 3 m., crossing the Cynfael at Pont Newydd. 2¾ l. a bridle-road of about 1 m. in length leads to *Castell Tomen-y-Mur*, the Roman station of Heriri Mons, through which the Sarn Helen runs in its course from Cardiganshire to Conovium. It is of rectangular shape, with rounded angles, about 500 ft. long, by 340 broad. On the N.E. side were 2 entrances, near one of which were the foundations of a rectangular building, in which bones, tiles, and refuse have been discovered. It derives its name, Tomen-y-Mur, "Tumulus in the Wall," from a large mound within the camp. 5½ m. *Trawsfynydd*, a village situated

on a hill, in the midst of rather desolate and bleak scenery. Here is the watershed of the rivers flowing respectively towards the Traeth and Barmouth. The ch. was restored in 1855. In the place itself there is nothing to detain the tourist, but the angler and antiquary will both find plenty of occupation. The lakes in the vicinity partly belong to Sir W. Wynn, and partly to the Crown. They are generally small, but are nearly all tolerably full of trout, perch, and pike. To the E. the most accessible lakes are, Llyn Tryweryn (Rte. 21), Llyn-y-garn, Llyn-rhythlyn, noted for its singular breed of perch; while on the W. are a number of small ones, situated near the summits of Diphwys and Y Craig Ddrwg. Trawsfynydd is 13 m. from Dolgelley. There is a rough roadside inn.

[An excursion may be taken up the valley of the Afon Prysor to 4 m. *Castell Prysor*, a Roman fort, placed on a rocky eminence. A portion of rude wall is all that remains, a great part having been thrown down some years ago by the country people in search of treasure. "It is supposed that this fort was suddenly fortified on an emergency; urns and Roman coins have been found in the vicinity."—*Cliffe*.

The road is continued to the head of Cwm Prysor, and near Llyn Tryweryn joins the Ffestiniog and Bala road (Rte. 21).] From Trawsfynydd a singularly straight road descends to Dolgelley, through the valley formed by the Eden, Cain, and Camlan rivers, which, joining about 2-3rds of the way down with the Mawddach, flows under that name to Barmouth. This valley is especially lovely, the principal features being long ranges of hills, at the base of which the rivers flow in deep and richly-wooded dingles. The hills on the E. form an irregular group, thrown off on the N. by the

Arenigs, and on the S. by Rhobell Fawr. Numbers of narrow dells and ravines are scooped out, each with its tributary streamlet, and many of them offering great attractions in the shape of waterfalls, which are remarkably beautiful and abundant in this part of North Wales. One of the most beautiful of these streams is the *Mawddach*, the upper portion of which can be reached by climbing Rhobell Fawr, and descending on the N.E. side. The views on the road to Dolgelley are very lovely, and Cader Idris is often a grand feature in the background; but from the confined and contracted valley the pedestrian will, perhaps, find it rather monotonous, and will hail with relief the opening into the vale of the Mawddach, at Llanelltyd. The strata of the mountains on each side the vale of Eden consist of Cambrian grits, throwing off from the central boss the Lingula flags. "The instructed eye can readily see on the cliffs of Rhinog-Fawr and Craig-ddrwg the great terraced lines of hard grit dipping westward; and on the opposite hand the same Cambrian strata dipping E. in the broken slopes of Craig-y-Pennaen. From bottom to top the masses of strata succeed each other, like as it were the concentric coats of an onion."—*Ramsay*. 7 m. rt., a little distance from the road, is an erect stone (*Maen-llwyd*); and at 8 m. a road l. leads into the valley of the Cain to 2 m. *Llech Idris*, a maenhir about 10 ft. high, called after the giant Idris. Near it is *Bedd Porius*, "the grave of Porius," on which is an inscribed stone, containing, it is said, the earliest Christian inscription known in Wales.

On the hill-side, near the junction of this by-road with the main road, is *Rhiw-goch*, a curious old mansion-house, formerly belonging to the family of Lloyd, descended from Llowarch ap Bran, one of the 15 tribes of

North Wales. It passed by marriage into the Gwydir family, and thence into the Wynns of Wynnstay. A portion of the house is of the beginning of the 17th cent. A little before the road crosses the Eden at Pont-Dol-gefeilian, $11\frac{1}{4}$, the tourist may breast the hill on his l., and descend on the other side to the waterfalls of Pistyll Cain and Rhaiadr Mawddach. By so doing he will save a long walk up the rivers from Tyn-y-groes. From the falls he can follow the path through the wood, and join the road again at Tyn-y-groes.

At 13 m., a little below the confluence of the Eden and Mawddach, the Camlan river flows in at Pont-ar-Camlan. A path leads up for more than $\frac{1}{2}$ m. to *Rhaiadr Ddu*, a very fine double fall of about 60 ft. It is within the grounds of Doly-melynlyn. $13\frac{3}{4}$ m. *Tyn-y-groes*, a neat little inn overlooking the river, built by Mrs. Oakley, for the convenience of tourists, and tenanted during the summer principally by anglers and artists. A little above the inn is a wooden bridge over the Mawddach, which the visitor should ascend on the E. or l. bank, keeping along the base of the bluff hill of Penrhos. From Tyn-y-groes to Rhaiadr Mawddach is at least 3 m. This fall occurs a little above the junction of the latter river with the Cain. It is about 60 ft. in height, over a rock, "the strata of which lying in parallel lines, several degrees inclined from the horizon, give the scene a singular and crooked appearance."—*Bingley*. Cross the Mawddach, and the next fall is soon in sight, *Pistyll-y-Cain*, which, as far as height goes (over 150 ft.), is by far the best of the series, though it is only seen to advantage after heavy rain. The strata are horizontal on the face of the rock, looking like a series of steps. The visitor should return on the opposite bank to that on which he came; of course, if he is going to

Trawsfynydd, he should cross the hill on the l. of Pistyll-y-Cain. In the hill-sides above the Mawddach there are several copper-mines, which at different times have yielded, besides copper, no inconsiderable quantity of gold. The principal mines in this district are Cwm Eisen, the Turf, Tyddyingwladis, and Dolfrwynog. From the latter in particular it has been extracted in extraordinary richness, $14\frac{1}{2}$ oz. of gold having been obtained from 100 lbs. weight of quartz. The metal occurs in veins and cross courses parallel and at right angles to the Cambrian rocks, which run N. and S. "The matrix of the veins is quartz, and the associated minerals either galena, blende, or iron and copper pyrites. In addition to the gold in the veinstone, minute particles are disseminated through the pyrites."—*Ansted*. The amount yielded in general does not appear to pay for the search and extraction. The hills, which were at one time very beautifully wooded, have been laid bare by the axe in the most ruthless manner.

15 m. on the E. side of the Mawddach, which has now put off its impetuous mood and has become a graceful river, are the grounds of *Nannau* (John Vaughan, Esq.), overshadowed by the peak of Moel Orthwm or Offirwm (p. 137).

As the road descends to $16\frac{1}{2}$ m. the village of *Llanelltyd*, one of the most exquisite and charming views in Wales opens gratefully before the tired wanderer—a view which for combination of beauties is perhaps unequalled. The Mawddach enters the broad vale which bears its name, and offers a striking contrast to the narrow dingle through which it has hitherto been flowing.

In the foreground Cader Idris rears its mighty head, sending down numerous subordinate chains and shoulders, clothed with wood to the very edge of the water, while the

softer banks of the river, or rather estuary, is graced by many pretty residences and villas. A more lovely spot for the site of a religious house cannot be imagined, and, if only for feasting the eyes upon the landscape, a visit to *Cymmer Abbey* would well repay. An establishment for monks of the Cistercian order was founded here by Meredydd and Gruffydd, sons of Conan, about the year 1198, although it has been wrongly attributed to Llewelyn ap Iorwerth, who, however, is known to have been a great benefactor. "There is no improbability in supposing that some brethren from Cîteaux, travelling into this part of Wales, were struck with the beauty and seclusion of the spot, and that, having taken up their residence on it, they afterwards procured the sanction of the princes of the country and the munificent aid both of them and the nobles."—*H. L. J.* The present remains, which do not indicate an establishment of any great importance, consist of the conventual church and part of the abbot's house, which is not later than the 16th cent., though the architecture of the abbey ch. is of the transition from Norm. to E. Pointed. It has a central aisle, and probably had 2 side ones—the former being 110 ft. long by 27 wide. The walls are remarkable for the number of square holes, known as squints, with which they are pierced. The eastern end, which is so luxuriantly embedded in ivy as to make the details well nigh invisible, is lighted by 3 lancet-windows with bold splays; above them are 3 smaller lancets. The tower has also 3 wide-splayed windows, the westernmost altered at the bottom into a doorway. In the S. wall is an Early Pointed doorway and also 3 sedilia, in which "are curious little shelves or recesses made of slate, for placing the breviaries used by the officiating priests." The former roodloft is said to have been taken to Llanegryn

church, according to the universal tradition of such things. It is curious that in the days of the older tourists *Cymmer Abbey* was not known, for it was always spoken of (except by Pennant) as *Vanner Abbey*. The name *Cymmer* is in the Welsh "the confluence of two rivers"—a name which Dugdale, as well as Tanner, has confounded with *Abbey Cwm-hir* in Radnorshire. At the Dissolution the property of the abbey was estimated at 58*l.* 15*s.* 4*d.* At *Llan-celtyd* the road joins the *Barmouth* road and crosses the *Mawddach* by a long bridge. A little after passing the gate on l. which leads to the abbey is *Hengwrt*, a very beautifully situated residence of the late Sir Robert Vaughan, who on his death bequeathed it to his relative Miss Lloyd. It is adjoining the property and grounds of *Nannau*, which for many years was quite deserted. The collection of MSS. known as the *Hengwrt MSS.* is famous amongst antiquaries. Crossing the *Wnion* by a stone bridge, the tourist arrives at 18½ m. *Dolgelley* (*Hotels*: *Golden Lion*, very comfortable; *Ship*, as good), the capital of *Merionethshire*, in conjunction with *Bala*, containing a population of some 2000. The grey sombre appearance of the houses will strike the visitor as imparting a somewhat melancholy cast to the place, although the exquisite beauty of the situation far outweighs any other impression. *Dolgelley*, "the Dale of the Hazel-groves," is the centre of a district teeming with such interest and such loveliness that the traveller is recommended to make it his head-quarters for a time. The town itself is mean, and contains but little of interest. From the circumstance that some coins of the time of Trajan were found near here, it is conjectured that the spot was known to the Romans. Near the *Ship Hotel* is a little passage leading to an obscure court, in which is part of an old mansion known as the

Parliament House. Here Owain Glyndwr is said to have assembled his parliament in 1404, when he formed an alliance with Charles King of France; but archæologists seem to think that the house is not of so ancient a date as to justify the tradition, as it does not appear to be earlier than the 16th cent. The ch. is a very plain building, with hideous modern windows: it contains a monument of an armed knight, Maurice, the son of Ynyr Vychan. This is a freestone statue, clad in hauberk and hood of chain mail, the fashion being that of the close of the 13th centy. Old Fuller quaintly describes *Dolgelley* as having walls 3 miles high, by which he implied that it was surrounded by mountains; also that men must enter it over the water and leave it under the water. The latter enigma is explained by there being a path leading out of the town which is carried under a water-trough from a mill. There is a considerable trade carried on in the manufacture of a coarse kind of woollen cloth, which goes by the name of "Welsh webs;" this, together with currying and tanning, gives employment to a good number of people. The assizes are held here alternately with Bala. In the county-hall is a portrait of the late Sir Robert Vaughan, who was the principal landholder in the district.

Coach to Bala, 18 m., Rly. from Penmaen Pool (2 m. distant) to Barmouth Junct., to join the Cambrian system.

Distances.—Corwen, 30 m.; Machynlleth, 16½; ditto, by Towyn, 34; Aberdovey, 24; Towyn, 20, but by hill road 16¼; Barmouth, 10; Harlech, 20; Trawsfynydd, 13; Tanybwlech, 18½; Ffestiniog, 21; Pistyll-y-Cain, 8½; Cader Idris, 5; Caerynweh, 3; Tal-y-llyn, 8; Cymmer Abbey, 2; Dinas Mowddu, 10.

[A pleasant excursion may be made to *Nannau*, 3 m. N., the seat

of John Vaughan, Esq., to whom it descended from the late Sir Robert Vaughan, Bart., who erected the present mansion, though a house must have existed here for a long time back. The road to it is an ascent all the way, and, after passing the lodge, leads through a natural dingle of forest-trees, with a thick undergrowth of ferns and brambles. The mansion is modern, and not a pleasing edifice, being built of very dark stone, but its situation is fine, in front of a bare precipitous hill. It was formerly the residence of Hywel Sele, the relation, though bitter enemy, of Owain Glyndwr. In the park (which is very extensive and ranges for some miles up the Bala road, and to the foot of *Moel Orthwm*) there stood an oak of 27 ft. girth, which was destroyed by lightning in 1813, bearing the name of *Derwen Ceubren yr Ellyl*, or the Spirit's Hollow Tree, from the following legend:—The Abbot of Cymmer endeavoured to reconcile Owain Glyndwr with his relative Hywel Sele, and for this purpose got them to meet together in *Nannau Park*. The interview, however, had a tragical end, for, whether by treachery, as some say, or in a moment of passion, according to others, Owain shot Hywel to the heart with an arrow. The victim's body he then hid in this hollow tree. Notwithstanding every search, Hywel's body was not found for more than 40 years afterwards. A sun-dial now stands on the spot where the oak formerly flourished—a spot even now looked upon with dread by superstitious country-folk, who consider it to be the resort of evil spirits. Sir E. Bulwer-Lytton has selected it as the scene of his romance of *Arthur*:—

"Of evil fame was *Nannau's* antique tree,
Yet styled the hollow oak of Demonrie."

Immediately above the house is *Moel Orthwm*, the Hill of Oppression, which Mr. Cliffe recommends tourists

to ascend if Cader Idris is clouded. It is strongly fortified with an agger or rampart of stone, strongest on the E. side—the side most likely to be attacked. It has 2 entrances, guarded by buildings for their protection. In the interior of the camp are traces of “eyttiau.” There is another strong post on an eminence to the E. of Moel Orthrwm. A little distance from the house, which stands on exceedingly high ground, is Llyn Cynweh (preserved). The visitor may cross Moel Cynweh and descend the bank to the Mawddach, and then follow a very lovely path called the Precipice Walk. Nannau is in the parish of *Llanfachreth*, the ch. of which lies at the N. foot of Moel Orthrwm.]

[Another delicious spot should be visited by every tourist—the Torrent Walk, situated in the beautiful grounds of *Caerynwch*, the seat of R. M. Richards, Esq., the son of the late R. Richards, Esq., formerly M.P. for Merionethshire. It lies on the direct road to Machynlleth, about 3 m. from Dolgelley. Within a few minutes' walk of the upper end of the Torrent Walk the New Cross Foxes Inn has recently been built by Mr. Richards for the convenience of tourists, where refreshments and good beds may be obtained.]

[The excursion *par excellence*, which every visitor to Dolgelley makes, is of course to the summit of *Cader Idris*, the most noble of the southern chain of N. Wallian mountains, which towers directly over the town to a height of 2914 ft.

“Idris that, like warrior old,
His batter'd and fantastic helmet rears,
Scattering the elements' wrath, frowns o'er
his way
A broad irregular duskiness.”—*Milman*.

This magnificent chain of mountains runs in a direction from E.N.E. to W.S.W., presenting to the N. a rugged broken line of precipices.

On the southern side the escarpments are confined to the upper or eastern end, secondary and less broken ranges succeeding and filling up the large area between Towyn and Barmouth; indeed the outliers of Cader Idris may be said to extend to the Dyfi. Guide's charge is 5s.; ponies can be obtained at the same fee. The same precautions about fogs and clouds extend to the ascent of this mountain that are detailed under the head of Snowdon, but to a very much less degree; and if the weather is tolerably fine no moderate pedestrian need fear to ascend alone. Night ascents of course require a guide. There are several tracks, any one of which may be followed; but the most direct route is by following the old or mountain road to Towyn for about $2\frac{3}{4}$ m. At 2 m. rt. is Llyn Gwernan, after reaching which a stile over the wall on the l. gives access to a path, leading without difficulty to a small lake called Llyn-y-gafr. Above this arises a steep but easily climbed bluff to *Llyn-y-gader*, a very deep tarn placed at the foot of the Cader in a magnificent amphitheatre of cliffs, up which at first appearance there does not seem any hope of making a way. There is a capital echo here, which repeats in a marvellously clear manner. The way now lies up a very fatiguing and steep path of debris and broken stones, known as Llwybyr Cadnaw or “The Foxes' Path,” which necessitates care and the free use of hands and feet. The guides usually descend this path instead of ascending; but the writer of this notice has found less trouble in going up than in coming down. The foxes which gave their name to the track are not yet extinct, the writer, on a former excursion, having surprised one in the act of drinking at Llyn-y-gader. Once upon the smooth turf again, it is easy walking to Pen-y-gader, the highest point of the

range, where there is a large Ordnance cairn and a rude hut of colossal stones built by the guide. It will not bear comparison with the Snowdon huts, as the state of the interior is such that it would take the wildest weather to induce a visitor to tenant it for half-an-hour. The 2 other eminences are on each side the Cader; they are the Mynydd Moel, near Dolgelley, and Tyrrau Mawr on the W. A few minutes' walking from the Cader will bring the pedestrian to the brink of the cliffs overhanging Llyn-y-Cae, which, though on a smaller scale, is about the grandest bit of scenery on the mountain. A decent cragsman may carefully descend the gullies to the banks of the lake and make his way down to Tal-y-llyn; but the most general route for visiting it is from Minffordd or T'yn-y-Cornel. The view from the summit of Cader Idris on a clear day is one from which it is very difficult to tear oneself. It is of course not so extensive as from Snowdon, but the colours of the surrounding ranges are so exquisite and the wooded valleys are brought into so much nearer neighbourhood that we question much whether the scene is not more beautiful. To the N. the most conspicuous points are the promontory of Llein, with Carn Madryn and Yr Eifl (or Rivals) in bold jagged outline; then come Moel Hebog and the peak of Moel-y-Wyddfa, a little to the l. of which Anglesea is seen filling up the hiatus. To these succeed Moel Siabod, Moelwyn, and the Ffestiniog range; the Arenigs, with the broad lake of Bala at their feet, backed up with the Clwydian range and Moel Famau, in the extreme distance. Southwards we have the coast of Pembrokeshire, St. David's Head, and the long line of Cardigan Bay; while more inland the long rounded ridges of the Montgomeryshire chains, including Plinlymmon and the Long Mountain, succeed each other like so

many gigantic waves. In the far distance it is said that the mountains of Caermarthenshire and the Brecon beacons have been distinguished. At our feet we have Barmouth and the estuary of the Mawddach, backed up by the lofty ridge of Llawlech and the Rhinogs, Trawsfynydd, and the valleys of the Eden and the Wnion. The views, like all Welsh mountain-scenes, depend very much on the weather and the lights and shades. The visitor, if fortunate, may obtain such a view as he will never forget, or he may have his walk for almost nothing. Geologically considered, Cader Idris is an igneous rock, principally composed of amygdaloidal greenstone, "that slopes down the mountain towards Llyn-y-Cae. Under it are masses of felspathic trap and long lines of greenstone, interbedded with altered slate, forming the steep N. cliff of the mountain, and overlooking the high valley between the cliff and Llyn-y-gader, which is itself formed almost entirely of felspathic ashes and conglomerate, with interbedded lines of greenstone, the whole dipping under the igneous rocks of the cliffs."—*Ramsay*. The Lingula flags underlie these. The geologist who gazes from the summit of the Cader cannot fail to be struck with the difference of the view N. and S. On the S. we have long rolling hills, with smooth swelling outlines, through which numbers of valleys have been excavated. These are the lower Silurian rocks of the Caradoc or Bala age. To the N. are broken rugged outlines, jagged peaks, and serrated ridges rising sharply and definedly into the sky. These mountains have been formed of repeated interstratifications of slate and felspathic traps and greenstone, and which have been greatly disturbed and thrown into synclinals and anticlinals. The softer slate-beds have been worn away by denudation, while the harder

igneous rocks have resisted the action and stand out in bold relief. The following plants have been recorded as having their habitat on Cader Idris:—*Sphagnum alpinum*, *Rhodiola rosea*, *Vaccinium vitis idæa*, *Antennaria dioica*, *Pinguicula vulgaris*, *Sedum Telephium*, *S. rupestre*, *Lycopodium selago*, *Campanula rotundifolia*, *Jungermannia alpina*, *J. julacea*, *J. minium*, *Lichen paschalis*, *L. fragilis*, *L. centrifugus*, *Thalictrum minus*, *Arbutus alpina*, *Polytrichum alpinum*, *P. unigermum*, &c.

The pedestrian who does not descend by the Foxes' path may be recommended to follow the shoulders, as they incline towards the Machynlleth road to the S.E. Very beautiful views of Tal-y-llyn are obtained by this route. After about $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. walking, a small tarn, Llyn Aran, is seen under the cliffs, from which the little river Aran runs direct to Dolgelley. As soon as practicable the descent should be made, and the river followed through a very picturesque ravine; the path brings you into the town, underneath the "running water" of which old Fuller speaks. The ascent takes from 3 to 4 hours.] Besides the residences above mentioned of Nannau, Hengwrt, and Caerynweh, there are many others in the neighbourhood, such as Bryngwyn (H. Reveley, Esq.), Dolserau (E. L. Edwards, Esq.), Coed (P. Hallows, Esq.), Vronwnion (L. Williams, Esq.). From Dolgelley to Machynlleth the distance is $16\frac{1}{2}$ m.

2 m. the road enters the picturesque valley of the stream on which is the Torrent Walk (p. 138). 3 l. *Caerynweh*, the beautifully-situated seat of R. Richards, Esq., near which is the New Cross Foxes Inn, very comfortable. [At $3\frac{1}{2}$ m. a mountain road branches on l. to Dinas Mowddwy, $6\frac{1}{2}$ m. (Rte. 23).] From this point the scenery greatly improves as the road draws nearer to the rugged precipices

of Cader Idris, at the very foot of which it runs for several miles.

[$4\frac{3}{4}$ m., at the turnpike-gate, a bridle-road l. crosses the hills into the valley of the Llefeni, and from thence into the vale of Dulas, rejoining the main road near Abercorrys.]

$5\frac{1}{2}$ m. is a narrow ravine, bounded on one side by the precipices of Ceu Graig (a shoulder of Cader Idris), and on the other by *Craig-y-Llam*, "the Rock of the Leap." The little tarn close to the road-side on l. is *Llyn Trigraienyn*, or the Lake of the 3 Grains, from 3 large stones which lie near it, detached from the rocks above. The legend is, that the giant Idris, finding some pebbles in his shoe, took them out and flung them to their present position. A most exquisite reach now opens out, the principal feature being the lovely Llyn Mwyngil or Tal-y-Llyn, the resort of innumerable anglers and artists, attracted by the beauty and variety of the scenery in the neighbourhood, as well as the capital sport furnished by the lake itself. (Rte. 25.)

$6\frac{1}{2}$ m. at *Minfordd* is a road-side inn, though not so generally convenient as the one at Tyn-y-Cornel on the S.W. end of the lake. From hence excursions should be made to Llyn-y-Cae, Tal-y-Llyn, and the scenery of the whole pass, taking the rail, if desired, from Abergwynolwyn to Towyn (Rte. 25). The Machynlleth road turns sharply to the l., and winding over the brow of a hill descends into the valley of the *Corris*. The mountains through which this little river runs are valuable for their slate-quarries, 4 or 5 of which have been opened, giving employment to a large number of quarrymen, and causing a populous village to grow up. "The vein is of an intense blue colour, and is so dense, strong, and durable, that it was selected for the roofs of the

National Gallery and other large structures." The produce of these quarries is taken to Aberdovey (Rte. 25), there to be shipped. A ch. has been built at Corris for the accommodation of the workmen brought together by the quarries. From hence the road is carried down the vale of Dulas, through river and woodland scenery of great beauty, although of very different character to those just passed through. $9\frac{1}{2}$ m., at Braich Goch, there is a small roadside inn. *Fronfelin*, on the opposite bank of the river, is the seat of J. Morris, Esq. Further down the stream are *Llwyn-gwern* (F. Ford, Esq.) and *Esgair* (D. M. Lewis, Esq.). 15 m. *Machynlleth* (Rte. 28). *Hotels*: Herbert Arms, and Unicorn.

ROUTE 23.

FROM DOLGELLEY TO DINAS MOWDDWY BY ROAD, AND TO CEMMAES ROAD JUNCTION BY RAIL.

As far as Cross Foxes, see last route.

The road then ascends a pass under the cliffs of Craig-y-bwlch (rt.) to (6 m.) Bwlch Oerdrws, "noted for having been one of the 3 places where, after the death of Glyndwr, the principal inhabitants assembled to form compacts for enforcing virtue and order."—*Nicholson*. The road then descends the valley of

the Ceryst, passing 7 m. Pennant-yr, where there is a waterfall. 9 m. rt. a little stream flows in from a romantic amphitheatre of mountains called Craig-Maes-y-glasiau, in the centre of which is another very good cascade.

10 m. *Dinas Mowddwy*, a singular village, remarkable as much for its situation as for the reverses which, if we are to believe all the accounts, it has sustained. It is placed on the shelf of a very steep mountain, which rises to a considerable height on the l., and overlooking the Dyfi, which flows at the base, in the shape of a bow, at its confluence with the Ceryst. This position can scarcely be surpassed in beauty, commanding as it does the 3 vales of the Ceryst, the upper and lower Dyfi. To judge by the present mean appearance of the village, the tourist would scarcely imagine that Dinas Mowddwy was such an important place as to have been one of the 5 independent lordships of Wales which were exempt from paying tribute to the prince, and that it maintained all the state of a corporation and mayor, the latter official being still annually elected. Notwithstanding this apparent show of civilization, the whole of this neighbourhood was for many years a byword and reproach, on account of the lawlessness and atrocities of a peculiar tribe, who infested the district under the name of the "Gwylliad Cochion," red-haired robbers. To such an extent did they plunder every available house, that in some farms in the parish of Cemmaes, even to this day, scythes may be seen which were placed in the chimney to prevent the entrance of these marauders by night. They are described "as building no houses, and practising but few of the arts of civilized life. They possessed great powers over the arrow and the stone, and never missed their mark. They would not

scruple to tax their neighbours in the face of day, and treat all and everything as they saw fit; till at last John Wynn ap Meredydd and Baron Owen were sent for, who came with a strong force on Christmas night, 1534, and destroyed, by hanging, upwards of 100 of them. Some of the women were pardoned, and a mother begged very hard to have her son spared; but on being refused she opened her breast, and said that it had nursed sons who would yet wash their hands in Baron Owen's blood. Bent on revenge, they watched the Baron carefully, and on his going to Montgomery sessions waylaid him and fulfilled the prediction. The place is called to this day *Llidiart-y-Barwn*, the Baron's Gate."—*Arch. Camb.*

[To Bala is 16 m. of most wild and magnificent country, through the upper part of the vale of Dyfi, and down by Cwm Twrch. The peaked summit of Aran Mowddwy forms a grand background as the tourist proceeds up the narrowing vale; and with its jagged outlines, and savage cwms and precipices, presents a very different aspect to what it, together with Aran Benllyn, shows on the W. side, overlooking the Dolgelley road.

1 m. There is a pretty cascade at Aber Cowarch, where the river Cowarch joins the Dyfi, having its rise in Hen Cwm, a grand semicircular "corrie" beneath the summit of the *Aran*. An easy, though rather long ascent, may be made from Aber Cowarch, by breasting the slope of Foel Rhudd, and following the brow of the hill to Dyrsgol, from whence a narrow ledge, somewhat similar to the Black Ladders of Carnedd Llewelyn, leads to the summit, 2955 ft. above the sea. On either side the ledge the visitor looks down into fearfully deep cwms, the one on the S. giving rise to the Cowarch, and on

the N. to the Dyfi, which issues from Craig-llyn Dyfi, a small lake, singular in possessing no fish, but a large stock of lizards. There is an unusually large cairn on the summit of the mountain, which was raised by the peasants of the neighbourhood on hearing that Cader Idris was 6 ft. higher than the Aran, which they determined should not be excelled on the score of height. They might have spared their trouble, however, as the Aran is the highest by 41 ft. The views are extremely fine, particularly towards the N., embracing the Snowdon and Efestiniog ranges in the distance, with the Arenigs, the Berwyns, and lake of Bala nearer home. In the S.W. is the Cader Idris range, while Plinlymmon's mighty back fills up the landscape due S. A little to the N. is the peak of Aran Benllyn, a continuation of, and scarcely lower than, Aran Mowddwy. From it the mountain descends in a succession of shoulders down to Bala lake.

4 m. is the retired little village of *Llan-y-Mowddwy*, the ch. of which, embosomed in fine yew-trees, is dedicated to Tydecho, whose bed ("Gwely Tydecho") is to be seen close to the road-side at Pennant: a little further on, on a rock, are 5 holes, of the shape of a cross, said to be the imprints of the saint's foot. There is a waterfall on the Pumrhyd, which flows from a cwm on the W. of Llan-y-Mowddwy. At 7 m. the watershed of this wild mountain road is reached at *Bwlch-y-groes*, the Pass of the Cross, where in former times a crucifix called to the mind of the pious pilgrim the propriety of returning thanks for having surmounted the perils of this stern region. The road, which at this spot is in the 2 counties of Merioneth and Montgomery, now rapidly descends the gorge of the Twrch, which at 10 m. is joined by a rapid mountain stream issuing from Cwm Croes. The

Tŵrch has been noted for many severe floods, which, rushing down the narrow vale, have spread destruction on reaching the lowlands. On one occasion, in 1781, no less than 17 houses were carried away. 12 m. a little to the l. is the ch. of *Llanuwchllyn*, close to the Dolgelley road, which contains the monument of a knight in armour, whose duty it was to protect the sheriff from banditti, probably the Gwylliad Cochion, on his journeys to and from the sessions. 14 m. l. is the ch. of *Llangower*, on the eastern shore of the lake. Close by is an creet stone. 16 m. rt. *Graienyn* (G. Jones, Esq.), and *Vachdeilog* (J. Jones, Esq.). Passing *Castell Gronw*, and rounding the lake at the spot

“From whence the river Dee, as silver clere,
His tumbling billows rolls with gentle
rore”—*Spenser*—

the tourist arrives at 17 m. *Bala* (Rte. 3) (*Hotels*: *White Lion*; *Bull's Head*).]

From *Dinas Mowddwy* the traveller can take the rail, which follows the course of the *Dyfi* river. Between *Dinas Mowddwy* and *Aberangell* Stats. is rt. the charming village of *Mallwyd* (Rte. 26). *Aberangell* is situated at the junct. of the *Angell* branch with the *Dyfi*.

Passing l. *Aberhiriath Hall*, the line reaches 6 m. *Cemmaes* Stat., and at *Cemmaes Road* forms a junction with the *Cambrian* system from *Shrewsbury* to *Aberystwith* and *N. Wales* (Rte. 28).

ROUTE 24.

FROM PWLLHELI TO DOLGELLEY, BY
PORTHMADOC, HARLECH, AND
BARMOUTH—CAMBRIAN RAILWAY.

1½ m. from Pwllheli is the village of *Abererch*. On l. is the ch., a picturesque ivy-covered building, with a remarkably long N. aisle and a bell-tower. 2½ l. *Broom Hall* (R. Jones, Esq.), and *Hendre* (H. Roberts, Esq.).

4½ m. AFONWEN JUNCT. for *Caernarvon* (Rte. 14).

6 m. the *Dwyfach* and *Dwyfawr* rivers are crossed at the village of *Llanystumdwy*, a sweetly situated little spot, with a ch. almost hidden with ivy. On l. is *Gwynfryn* (O. J. Ellis Nanney, Esq.). 8 m. *Cricceith* (*Inn*: *George IV.*), a small scattered village containing the ruins of a castle, which, though of no great extent, yet appears larger than it really is, from its well-chosen position on a tongue of high rock running out into the sea. It was defended by a double fosse. A gateway, with 2 rather massive towers, leading into a court (which is converted into a garden), and a few fragments of wall, are all that is now left of it. It is said to have been built by *Edward I.* in 1286, but it is more likely that he only repaired it, as, according to *Rowlands*, a fort existed here previous to his time. The views from the mount, as well as from the whole of the route between Pwllheli and Cricceith of the opposite coast, are most extensive and beautiful. From hence the rly. runs to

13 m. *Porthmadoc* Stat., passing 1 m. l. the villages of *Penmorfa* and *Tremadoc* (Rte. 19).

From *Porthmadoc* the line crosses the *Traeth-mawr*, and enters the promontory of *Penrhyn*, always running alongside the *Traeth Bach*. On the

highest ground of this slip of land is Dendraeth Castle (M. Williams, Esq.).

16 m. *Penrhyn Dendraeth* Stat. It then crosses the estuary of the Traeth Bach, having on l. the village of *Llandecwyn*, perched high up on the mountains about midway between 2 lakes, *Llyn Tecwyn Uchaf* and *Isaf*. The scenery of these lakes is well worth exploring. They are full of fish, but are so much poached by the quarrymen as to spoil all sport. As the tourist is now entering the district of Ardudwy, it will be well to acquaint himself with the features of the immense block of mountains running from Maentwrog to Barmouth, and separating the Harlech country from all the eastern portions of Merionethshire. Although they all constitute the same group without a single break, they are called by different names according to the most prominent points. Between Llandecwyn and Harlech are *Craig-ddrwg* and *Diplwys*, to the S. of which are the *Rhinogs* and *Llethr*, while the long ridge running from hence to Barmouth has the general appellation of Llawlech. The whole of the group are full of lakes, which give birth on either side to numerous small streams. The geology of this district is very interesting, though it can only be studied on a large scale. The great mass of these rocks is formed of Cambrian grit, which rises in a dome or boss, the Merionethshire anticlinal of Prof. Sedgwick. The centre of this anticlinal is a little to the N. of Llawlech, from which the rocks dip steadily. "This central boss throws off on its flanks the superincumbent Lingula flags, which are in their turn overlaid by another casing of slates, associated with the interbedded igneous series."—*Ramsay*. These rocks, together with those of Llanberis, are the representatives of the Longmynd strata.

Soon after leaving Talysarnau

Stat., 18 m., the traveller has about $\frac{3}{4}$ m. on rt. the village of *Llanvihangel-y-Traethau*, to which the road runs on an embankment. In the churchyard is a curious rude stone, with an inscription of the 12th cent., deciphered by Mr. Westwood and others as follows:—

+ HIC EST SEPVLCVRVM WLEPER-
MATIS ODELEV QVI PRIMVS EDIFICAVIT
HANC ECCLESIAM
IN TEMPOR EWINI REGIS.

On l. is *Glyn*, an Elizabethan house belonging to W. Ormsby Gore, Esq., and the residence of Mr. Parry. A little higher up is *Maes-y-Neuadd* (the seat of John Nanney, Esq.), the grounds of which extend along a high bank of rock, and command most splendid views over the Traeth and the Snowdon range. From hence the turnpike-road gradually ascends, overlooking on rt. the extensive alluvial flat of *Morfa Harlech*, which has been drained and cultivated, and contains some good farms.

21½ m. is the ancient but decayed town of *Harlech* (*Im*: Blue Lion, unpretending and comfortable). The terrace at the back of the house commands one of the most splendid sea-views in Wales, together with the whole of the coast of Llyn, with its conspicuous heights of Carn Madryn, Carn Boduan, and Yr Eifl. The town of Harlech, although legally the county town, is a miserable little village containing only 600 Inhab.; but its former importance is attested by the noble ruins of the castle, so commandingly situated on the brink of the precipice overlooking the sea. In the prehistoric days it is known that a fortress existed here, built by Bronwen, the sister of Brân, who died from grief at a blow bestowed upon her by her husband Matholweh king of Ireland, and was buried on the banks of the Alaw, in Anglesea (Rte. 3). The fortress, which was named Twr Bronwen, was replaced in the 6th cent. by a more splendid edifice

erected by Maelgwyn Gwynedd, subsequently called *Caer Collyn*, from a prince of that name. "He resided some time in a square tower of the ancient fortress, whose remains are very apparent, as are part of the old walls, which the more modern in certain places are seen to rest upon."—*Pennant*. The present building is of the time of Edward I., and from the designs of Henry de Elfreton, the architect of Caernarvon Castle, to which, however, it is inferior in everything save situation. The first constable was Hugh de Wlonkeslow, and the salary fixed at 100*l.*, but it was afterwards cut down to 26*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* More than the usual amount of hard blows was the lot, at different times, of the castle of *Hardlech*, or *Hardelagh* as it was called. In 1404 it was taken by Owain Glyndwr, who, a few years later, was ousted by Prince Henry. During the Wars of the Roses, the brave governor, Davydd ap Ifan, afforded an honourable asylum to Margaret of Anjou, Queen of Henry VI., and the Prince of Wales, after the battle of Northampton. It is recorded of this governor, that, on being summoned to surrender by Herbert Earl of Pembroke, he replied that he had held a fortress in France until all the old women in Wales had heard of it, and now he intended to hold *Harlech* till all the old women in France heard of it. Eventually, after a long siege, the brave defenders were forced to capitulate, and the whole district was then at the mercy of the King, Edward IV., whose devastations are thus quaintly set forth:—

"In *Hardlech* every house
Was basely set on fire;
But poor *Nant Conway* suffered more,
For there the flames burnt higher.
'Twas in the year of our Lord
Fourteen hundred sixty-eight
That these unhappy towns of Wales
Met with such wretched fate."

History of the Gwydyr Family.

During the Civil Wars *Harlech* was alternately gained by Royalist
[*N. Wales.*]

and Parliamentary armies, and was finally invested by Gen. Mytton in 1647. A constable is still appointed by the Crown, the present holder of the office being the Hon. Roger Lloyd, 2nd son of Lord Mostyn. On the seaward side of the castle the precipitous escarpment of the cliffs needed no other defence, but on the eastern, or land side, it is protected by a very wide and deep fosse, over which a drawbridge led to the principal gateway, which is flanked by 2 lofty towers and defended by 3 portcullises. From the machicolated turrets of the bastions formerly sprang lighter towers, similar to those at *Conway*. The general plan of the fortress is very simple—a quadrangle about 210 ft. each way, with a round tower at each corner. On the entrance-side of the inner court are the chief apartments, a fine elevation of 3 stories in height, with cut stone architraves to each window. On the rt. of the court are the remains of a chapel. The banqueting-hall is on the opposite side, and overlooks the precipices above the sea. One of the towers is still called after Margaret of Anjou. Taken as a ruin, *Harlech* disappoints; for it lacks the beauty of detail found in *Conway* or *Beaumaris*. It is altogether smaller, ruder, and more simple in plan, than any of the other *Caernarvonshire* castles, neither is it so well kept. According to Mr. Wynn's account of the survey made in Henry VIII.'s reign, there were then 2 drawbridges leading towards the sea, and extensive outer works leading to the way from the marsh. At various times antiquities have been exhumed near *Harlech*, and amongst them a celebrated gold torque, which was purchased by Lord Mostyn, and now preserved at Mostyn Hall. The siege which the castle underwent in the 15th cent. gave rise to the celebrated air of the '*March of the Men of Harlech*,' one of the most stirring and characteristic effusions of Welsh musical genius. Just underneath the

castle, and extending to a considerable distance northward, is the singular level known as *Morfa Harlech*, or Harlech Marsh, which has evidently been created by the gradual retiring of the sea. It was noted, in 1694, for a singular mephitic vapour, which overspread the flats for a period of 8 months, and spread dismay amongst the cultivators of the land by the destruction caused to the cattle and the crops, for which the ingenious Dr. Lloyd invented a theory worth relating: "I doe imagine there has been a considerable amount of locusts drowned in our sea, in their voyage from America, which, being cast on our shores about Harlech, produced an infectious exhalation which poisoned ye grass, and being kindled up fired ye hay and corn." On the shore, in face of Harlech, the sand has been thrown up in a series of hillocks of the most curious and striking forms: this spot, about a mile from the town, is worth a visit. A district ch. was built some years ago at Harlech, which is in the parish of Llandanwg.

Conveyances.—Rail to Barmouth, 10 m.; and Pwllheli.

Distances.—Tanybwlech, 10 m.; Cwm Bychan, 5; Bwlch Drws Ardudwy, 10; Bwlch-y-Tyddiad, 7; Llanbedr, 3; Llanaber, 8.

[An excursion may be made to Cwm Bychan by crossing the ridge of hills immediately behind the town, and falling into the road from Llanbedr up the valley of the Artro. A lane runs straight up the hill, on the summit of which there is a bridle-road to l., which take, and thus reach Cwm Bychan in less time than by going into the glen. Near its junction with the road is a spot called *Drws-yr-Ymlid*, "the Door of Pursuit," where a notorious bandit was captured after a long chase, and said to have been put to death by boiling. Further on is *Y Fôn-lef-hir*, "the Place of the long loud Cry,"

probably connected with some pre-historic fight; and *Moel Goedog*, a triple-walled circular British camp in good preservation. As the winding road descends the hill into the valley of the Artro, the tourist passes the farm-house of *Gerdli-bluog*, the birth-place of Archdeacon Prys, author of the metrical version of the Psalms, and a translator of the Bible into Welsh.] About $\frac{3}{4}$ m. S. of the town is the Circle of Muriau Gwyddelod. From Harlech the road descends the hill to $11\frac{1}{2}$ m. *Llanfair*, "where Archbishop Baldwin and Giraldus slept in 1188;" and at 12 m. approaches the little estuary of the Artro. The ch. at Llanfair contains some good stained glass. The tourist should not fail to remark the exquisite scene looking back from Llanfair to Harlech, justly considered one of the most beautiful views in N. Wales. About $\frac{1}{2}$ m. rt., close to the sea-shore, is the ruined ch. of *Llandanwg*, which is fast falling into decay. The interior is still worth a visit, and might at a small expense be restored sufficiently to resist the destructive action of the elements for a long time to come. 13 m. on the banks of the Artro is the pretty little wood-embosomed village of *Llanbedr*, next to Tal-y-Llyn the best fishing station in Merionethshire. The Victoria is a snug roadside inn, and, for an exploration of the romantic scenery of Glyn Artro and the passes, will suit the traveller better than Harlech. [The road to Cwm Bychan follows the rt. bank of the Artro up to its source in the lake, about $4\frac{1}{2}$ m. At 1 m. the river is joined by the *Nant-col*, on the wooded banks of which is the prettily-situated villa of Aber Artro, the residence of Capt. Kerr. The road thence winds along a lovely valley, at the foot of the Rhinog Vawr, to *Dolurheiddiog*, "the Meadow of the Salmon," the furthest point practicable for cars. This is a solitary old Welsh mansion belonging to a family of the name of Lloyd,

who, it is said, have held uninterrupted possession since the year 1100. This ancient family, which is descended from Owain Gwynedd, had the honour of sending a chief with Rhys ap Meredydd to Bosworth Field. The illustrious topographer Pennant was entertained here in his visit to *Cwm Bychan*, which is a little higher up, but concealed by an abrupt turn in the valley. A small mountain river runs into the Artro, having its source amongst the hills of Craig-y-ddrwg, in *Llyn Eiddew*, one of a group of lakes which are worth visiting for the wild scenery surrounding them. *Llyn Eiddew Mawr* is the largest of the group; it holds out a good promise of sport, "the trout being small, but of excellent quality." In *Llyn Eiddew Vach* they are much larger. On the N.W. shore are remains of an early British town.

Between *Llyn Caerwych* (very large trout) and *Llyn Dywarchen* a mountain road passes, running from Harlech N.E., and crossing the pass between Craig Gwynt and Diphwys to Trawsfynydd (Rte. 22). Close to the road is *Bryn Cader Fawr*, a British camp.

The lake of *Cwm Bychan* is situated very finely in a narrow wild glen, shut in on all sides but one, from which the Artro issues. Towering above it is a savagely-precipitous mass of rock called *Craig-y-Saeth*, "the rock of the arrow," believed to be so called from the fact of the ancient sportsmen watching the deer from hence. It is of great height, and the escarpment is so sudden that from the surrounding hills it is a prominent feature, and to the pedestrian who is crossing the hills at his own sweet will is a capital landmark. The lake itself is about $\frac{1}{2}$ mile long, and although of grand features the absence of wood gives it a sullen and melancholy character. When the weather is broken and the clouds are drifting lowly over the mountains,

then is the time to see *Cwm Bychan* to advantage. The fish, like the lake, are shy and sullen. Mr. Cliffe recommends fishing on the S. side, near and under *Craig-y-Saeth*.

The path is carried on the head of the glen, and then turns sharp round again, climbing the hill to the *Bwlch-y-Tyddiad*, one of the celebrated entrances into *Ardudwy* through the lofty range of mountains that shut it out from the remainder of the county. The scenery is really grand here; on either side are the desolate, dark-coloured ridges of *Craig-wion* and the *Rhinog Vawr*, which rises on rt. above the pass to a height of 2463 ft. Apart from the scenery this pass is famous for its flight of stone steps, which, though sometimes disconnected, are carried with surprising regularity to the very summit. They are generally attributed to the Romans, though they may belong to a still earlier time. It is something to feast the imagination upon, when ascending this pass, to think that these very steps may have been trodden by the Roman legions in their way from *Heriri Mons* to the coast districts of *Mervinia*. At a considerably higher level on each side of the pass is a lake,—on the l. *Llyn-y-Morwynion*, "the Maidens' Lake;" on the rt. *Glowllyn*, "the Bright Lake," which has the merit of being the best sporting lake of all the Harlech series. Though very small, it contains very large trout, of a bright golden colour. "Sandpipers frequent this lake in the breeding season. These beautiful little birds are so tame and fearless as to pass within a few inches of your feet at the very edge of the water whilst you are fishing on the shore." —*Notes of an Angler*. On the eastern side of the pass there is a wide and dreary expanse of mountain, sloping down towards the valley of the Eden. The path, however, soon becomes faint and slushy, and the pedestrian will have to use his "bog-trottin

powers " more than is pleasant. Keep straight across past the isolated farms, from which a sort of road leads across the Eden at Pont-y-Gribbli, and soon joins the Trawstynydd and Dolgelley road (Rte. 22). The latter half of this excursion is not to be recommended. But the pedestrian may vary the route very pleasantly by rounding the steepes of Rhinog Vawr and re-entering the mountains by the parallel pass of *Bwlch Dws Ardudwy*, the scenery of which is nearly as grand as the other. The same kind of staircase is also visible here. A little brook enters the pass on the S. from *Llyn Howell*, a small tarn, magnificently situated amongst the precipices of Llethr, and presenting in its rugged and crater-like aspect features like those of *Llyn-y-Cae* (Rte. 25). The trout in this lake are said to be deformed. From the head of the pass the road descends Cwm Nanteol (wrongly called Afon Artro in the Ordnance maps) to join the Artro near Llanbedr. At the head of the brook, close to the roadside, is the farmhouse of Maes-y-garnedd, which has the questionable honour of having nursed the regicide Colonel Jones, brother-in-law of Cromwell.]

From *Pensarn Stat.*, 23½ m., the conchologist should visit *Mochras*, a tongue of land about 1½ m. distant, divided from the mainland by the estuary of the Artro. Many rare and beautiful shells have been picked up here after rough weather at sea. In the village of Llanbedr is a maenhir, inscribed with Ogham characters. 25½ m. on the flat to the rt. are the scanty traces of *Gwern-y-capel*, believed to have been amongst the earliest of British churches. On the rising ground on l. of the road is a cromlech. Probably in no district in Wales are there so many of these old Druidic memorials scattered about as in the next 2 m., there being no less than 6 in fair pre-

servation on the slopes of the hills running down from Llethr. 26½ m. *Dyffryn Stat.*, near which is *Llanenddwyn Ch.* 27¼ m. opposite the ch. of *Llanddwywe* is the long straight avenue, bordered with limes, which leads to *Corsygedol*, the ancient family-seat of the Vaughans, who were descended from Osborn or Osber, an Irish nobleman, who, having obtained possession of territory in Merionethshire, fixed his residence at a place near this called *Llys Osborn*. In the failure of male issue, the estate fell in the female line to Sir Roger Mostyn. It is now in the possession of the family of Lord Mostyn, but has been untenanted for a considerable time. The gateway is one of Inigo Jones's works about the 17th cent. The situation of the house is exposed and very lofty, but commanding splendid sea-views over Cardigan Bay. Near the lodge on the l. is a curious cromlech, known as *Coetan Arthur* or Arthur's Quoit, said to have been thrown by that hero from the summit of Moelfre. The impressions of his fingers are visible on the stone. The ch. of Llanddwywe has a chapel containing the tombs of the Vaughan family, now extinct. The *Ysgethin* river, which flows into the sea near Llanddwywe, may be followed up for about 3 m. to *Llyn Irdlyn*, a lake of some size on the W. slopes of Llawlech. On the W. shore are remains of a British town, which probably had a connection with the fortified eminence of *Craig-y-ddinas*. The whole of this rather dreary range abounds in a most singular manner with cairns, circles, camps, and erect stones. 2 m. above Llyn Irdlyn is *Llyn Bodllyn*, a fine sheet of water lying under the crags of *Diphwys*, the highest point of Llawlech (1900 ft.).

Llyn Duŷn is a small pool, with good fishing, at the very head of the river, under the rocks of *Crib-y-rhiw*. It is by far the finest, as regards

scenery, of all this group. The southern portion of the range of Llawlech is crossed by the old mountain road to Dolgelley. A very singular and prominent feature in all the sea-views in this district is *Sarn Badrig* or St. Patrick's Causeway, a narrow ridge of rock and pebble, which extends out for a distance of 21 m. from the shore, and is about 24 ft. in breadth. At ebb-tide upwards of 9 m. are left dry, and for a long line beyond the eye can trace the foam which marks its dangerous course. It is very similar to the *Sarn-y-bwch*, near Towyn (Rte. 25), and *Sarn Cynfelin* at Aberystwith, and bears the same legend, viz. that it was one of the gigantic embankments raised in the 6th cent. by Gwyddno Garanhir, to protect the Cantreff-y-Gwaelod, or Lowland Hundred, from inundations of the sea. By the drunken carelessness of Seithenyn, who was the appointed custodian of these dykes, the waters rushed in and destroyed for ever this fertile and populous district, which numbered more than 12 fortified towns. There is little doubt that a submerged country lies underneath the sea, though, unfortunately for the legend, the *Sarn* has been pronounced by Professor Ramsay to be a natural formation. This particular *Sarn* is said to have been so named from its being used by St. Patrick as a dry footpath in his journeys to and from Ireland.

28½ m. *Egryn Abbey*, of which nothing but the name is left. On the hills on l. are *Pen-y-dinas*, another fortified post, surrounded by traces of cyttiau, and on the opposite side of the *Egryn* brook some cairns known as *Carneddau Hengwm*.

29½ m. rt. the small seaside ch. of *Llanaber*. This beautiful E. E. ch. of the 13th cent. was for many years in ruins, or in such a state of decay as to preclude the holding of divine

service in it. It has been exquisitely restored from designs by Mr. Boyce. The exterior of the ch. is plain and almost severe: in form it consists of nave with clerestory, 2 side-aisles and chancel, with a single lancet for the E. window. All the beauty of ornament and moulding has been reserved for the interior, which is a perfect gem. The visitor should particularly notice the exquisite S. doorway. There is also a singular chest which was used for the reception of votive offerings. "A little further on, where the small river Ceilwart crosses the road, is an inscribed stone, marked, according to Mr. Wynn's reading, 'CALIXTUS MONEDO.'"

31½ m. *Barmouth* Stat. (*Hotel: Corsygedol Arms*, comfortable) is a queer little watering-place situated at the end of the promontory at the mouth of the *Mawddach*, from which it has also gained the name of *Abermaw*. The range of mountains with which the tourist has been keeping company so long here terminate so abruptly that the very houses are perched in tiers one above another in a fashion which the older topographers have likened to St. Kitt's or Gibraltar. At the mouth of the river is the small island of *Ynys-y-Brawd*, "the Friars' Island." *Barmouth* has a certain degree of importance as the only port in Merionethshire, although the trade that is carried on is altogether limited to coasting. There is a ferry across the *Maw*, which saves at least 16 m. in the journey to Towyn and *Aberdovey*. As a bathing-place it will always stand high on account of the magnificent scenery in the neighbourhood, which is not to be surpassed in all Wales. There is a chapel of ease in the town, *Llanaber* being the mother church.

Rail to Harlech, 10 m.

Distances. — *Dolgelley*, 9½ m.; *Towyn*, 12½; *Llanaber*, 2; *Corsygedol*, 5½; *Cymmmer Abbey*, 8.

The road to *Dolgelley* is a terrace.

road, formed, in many parts at the enormous cost of 2 guineas a yard out of the solid rock, and overhanging the glorious vale of the Mawddach, which, though now become an estuary, is so landlocked that when the tide is up it presents all the appearance of a smooth lake. The whole line of road presents an ever-shifting panorama of fresh beauties. "Dense woods, wild overhanging precipices, large glowing rocks covered with purple heaths, the bright river, with every other requisite for the finest landscape, insulated or grouped in the most picturesque masses, all blended in a series of rich and varied prospects."—*Roscoe*. The most striking feature on the opposite bank is Cader Idris, with its rugged outlines and deep cwms thrown into strong relief by the varying light. At any time, but more particularly in early morning, this walk will amply repay the most fastidious of tourists. The beauties of nature are further enhanced by a succession of trim villas which every now and then occur. The chief of them are *Aberamffra*, *Caerdeon* (Rev. W. Jelf), *Glan-y-mawddach* (Misses Dodd), *Glandwr* (W. Jones, Esq.), *Borthynog* (Mrs. Jones). At Pontddu, 4 m., the road crosses a small stream which rushes from the mountain-side in a most picturesque course. The Vigra mountain above it contains a valuable copper-mine (Introd., p. xvii.). 8 m. at Llanelltyd the contracted vale of the Mawddach joins that of the Wnion. In the woods on l. is Cymmer Abbey (Rte. 22). 9½ m. Dolgelley (*Hotels*: Golden Lion, Ship): Rte. 22.

ROUTE 25.

FROM DOLGELLEY TO MACHYNLLETH, BY TOWYN AND ABERDOVEY—RAIL; AND ON TO LLANIDLOES BY ROAD.

From Dolgelley omnibuses start daily for Penmaen Pool, 2½ m., the nearest point of the Cambrian Rly., whence the line runs on the S. bank of the Mawddach estuary to

BARMOUTH JUNCT., 8 m.

There are 2 roads to Towyn. The upper or mountain road ascends to the foot of Cader Idris, and, turning over the spur of Craig Cwm Llwyd, is carried over very bleak and exposed ground to Llanegryn, where the other road joins it. This latter, although longer, is the one recommended to be followed, as it is a better road, and affords magnificent coast and sea views for the greatest part of the way. 1 m. l. are *Bryn-y-gwyn* and *Bryn Adda*, both of which residences command the exquisite scenery of the Mawddach and the opening of the vale above Llanelltyd. From hence the road gradually rises, keeping on a much higher level than the one on the N. side of the estuary. This latter, however, has the advantage in point of beauty, as it is overlooked by Cader Idris in all its rugged grandeur, while on this side the tourist is too overshadowed to see much of it. 6½ m. *Capel Arthog*, a small mountain ch. The rock and wood scenery here is very beautiful and diversified. Arthog is the residence of R. Fowden, Esq.

1 m. to l., between the 2 roads, is *Illys Bradwen*, the remains of a palace or residence belonging to Ednowain, chief of one of the 15 tribes of N. Wales in the time of Gruffydd ap Cynan, about the 7th cent. The ground-plan is that of

an oblong building of about 30 yards square. A little higher up is Llyn Cregenau, lying at the foot of Tyrrau Mawr.

At 9 m. the road ascends the cliffs immediately opposite the watering-place of Barmouth. From the Friog there is a road of $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. across the alluvial ground and sand, to a small tongue of land at the mouth of the estuary, from whence there is a ferry to Barmouth. The rly. from Barmouth to the Junct. with the Dolgelley branch crosses the same flats. *Ynisfaig*, underneath the road on rt., is the residence of T. Green, Esq. For the next few miles the sea-views over the Bay of Caernarvon offer a very pleasant contrast to the mountains with which the tourist has been so utterly surrounded, and give a pleasant sense of expanse and freedom which only those who have been dwelling in vales can feel.

12 m. is *Llwyngwrl* Stat., a large wretched-looking village in the parish of Llangelynnyn. There are several antiquities to reward the patient archæologist on the mountain to the N. and S.E., in the shape of tumuli, cairns, *meini-heirion*, and a camp named *Castell-y-gaer*. The parish ch. of Llangelynnyn is 2 m. to the S. on the old coast-road to Towyn; it is now deserted, and a ch. has been built at *Llwyngwrl* to supply its place. The rly. to *Ynislas* and *Machynlleth* may here be taken, but the archæologist should follow the road inland over a bleak and uninteresting country to 16 m. *Llanegryn*, the ch. of which village is remarkable for a singular Norm. font, and a very beautiful roodloft said to have been brought from *Cymmer Abbey*. Mr. Wynn has, however, proved that this could not have been the case, as the architectural details show that the screen is a good deal too short for the *Cymmer* ch. *Llanegryn* has

been restored by that excellent land-owner and archæologist, W. W. E. Wynn, Esq., of *Peniarth*, which stands on the rt. bank of the *Dysynni*, about 1 m. from the ch. [From hence the valley of that river, which is remarkable for its beauty, may be followed up to its head. The road on the northern side of the stream should be taken as far as *Pont-y-garth* opposite *Craig Aderyn*; there cross and keep all the way on the l. bank. *Craig Aderyn*, "the Rock of Birds," is a very striking feature in the vale, a lofty, somewhat isolated rock, with a precipitous escarpment, the resort in the season of numberless cormorants, hawks, wood-pigeons, &c. The effect is best when viewed from the lower end of the valley. There are traces of a fort on the summit. At *Pont Ystumanner* a road turns sharply round to the rt. following the course of a stream (called the *Dysynni* by some) which takes its rise in *Tal-y-Llyn*. The archæologist should keep up the vale for 1 m. to *Llanvihangel-y-Pennant*, a secluded little village nestling in a cwm, that rises in the heart of *Cader Idris*. The ch. contains an interesting Norm. font. On a small eminence near the road are the scanty remains of *Castell-y-Bere*, or as sometimes called *Teberri*, the buildings of which would appear to have covered the whole of the summit of the hill. Little is known of it, save that it was visited by Edward I., since whose time it is believed not to have been tenanted. A subterraneous passage exists underneath part of the ruins. The road from *Pont Ystumanner* to *Abergwynolwyn Stat.* is sweetly pretty, running at the foot of *Gamallt*, a long peculiarly-shaped mountain that terminates in a narrow point just over the latter place. The visitor may return at once by rail to Towyn, but, as *Tal-y-Llyn* is only $2\frac{1}{2}$ m. distant, it is generally included in the excursion. This is considered by many the most charming lake in Wales, although in

point of size it is exceeded by several. It is but $1\frac{1}{4}$ m. long and $\frac{1}{4}$ m. broad, being in fact "an expansion of the narrow vale; the waters from the surrounding mountains being confined and dammed up at the lower extremity, where they run off in a rapid stream at Penybont, under a new bridge, erected a few years ago."—*Notes of an Angler.* The lake is celebrated for the rapid growth and the amazing fecundity of trout, and is, therefore, as a matter of course, flogged from morning to night. The depth in general is not great, and the bottom is covered with moss and weeds, which is the principal cause of the fish thriving so well. The shallow weedy bottoms are the most likely spots to afford good sport, particularly at the lower end of the lake. May and June are the best months, and close to the village of Tal-y-Llyn is the little inn of Tyn-y-cornel, a comfortable and unpretending hostelry in much repute amongst anglers. There is a second inn at Minffordd, at the junction of the Dolgelley and Machynlleth roads, but it is not so convenient, on account of the distance from the lake. A little below Minffordd a small stream runs in from *Llyn-y-Cae*. The best way of visiting this glorious tarn is by following the course of the brook about $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. The only lake to compare with it in N. Wales is Llyn Idwal. It lies in a very deep hollow, surrounded on all sides but the outlet by the intensely rugged and steep precipices of Cader Idris—

"On every side now rose
Rocks, which in unimaginable forms
Lifted their black and barren pinnacles
In the light of evening, and its precipice,
Obscuring the ravine, disclosed above
'Mid toppling storms.'"—*Shelley.*

The lake is of small size, but is all the more striking on that account: its depth is so great, 360 ft., that some have supposed it to be the crater of an extinct volcano. Trout are abundant, of better quality than

those in Tal-y-Llyn, but the lake is little fished, on account of the difficult walking to get to it. On the return from Llyn-y-Cae the tourist may cross one of the shoulders of Craig Ammarch and descend Cwm Ammarch back to Tal-y-Llyn. From thence he should take the direct road to *Abergwynolwyn* Stat. $4\frac{1}{2}$ m., from whence it is a pretty run of 7 m. by rail to Towyn, calling at *Rhyd-yr-onen* Stat. At 17 m. the Dysynni is crossed. It very soon becomes an estuary, and expands into a considerable pool before it enters the sea. It is evident that a district along this coast has been at one time submerged, as traces of forest trees have been at intervals exposed at low water. There is, moreover, a long causeway named *Sarn-y-bwch*, "the Bucks' Road," which, like Sarn Badrig and Sarn Cynfelin, is supposed to have been a remnant of the Cantref-y-gwaelod or Lowland Hundred. This Sarn is known to extend seawards for a distance of 5 m., though there is little doubt that it is the result of natural causes and not of any artificial formation. Bleak and exposed as these coast-hills are, it is evident that they were strongly defended by their inhabitants, from the number of camps and forts so abundantly scattered about. Besides those already mentioned, there is a chain of camps on the hill to the N. of the mouth of the Dysynni, as also a mound, Tomen Ddreiniog, about $\frac{1}{2}$ m. below the bridge. At Pont Vathew, 18 m., 1. is a road which leads direct to Craig Aderyn, and which should be followed by the tourist from Towyn who does not care to visit Llanegryn ch. By so doing he will save at least 2 m. Nearly a mile further rt. is *Ynys Maengwyn*, the finely-wooded seat of the Corbet family, different members of which, by their well-directed and spirited improvements in agriculture and road communications, have done very much for the surrounding country.]

19 m. l. is an erect stone called after St. Cadfan.

20 m. *Towyn Stat.* (*Hotel, Corbet Arms*, excellent), a cleanly pleasant town about $\frac{3}{4}$ m. from the sands, which from their fineness and extent induce a considerable number of people, principally of the poorer class, to go for sea-bathing. There are also baths in the town. Another recommendation to Towyn is the economy of living, which is said to be as reasonable as in any place in the kingdom. The antiquary will be delighted with the ch., an interesting old building with a fine Early Norm. nave. It is a cruciform ch. of considerable size, containing nave, chancel, side-aisles, and transepts. The nave is separated from the aisles by immensely massive piers supporting round arches. Above is a clerestory. The whole ch., but particularly the chancel, has been dreadfully disfigured by parochial improvements. The patron saint is St. Cadfan, who is said to have come from Armorica in the 6th cent., and retired to Bardsey Island. A very singular inscribed stone, known as St. Cadfan's stone, lies against the S. wall of the ch. It is about 7 ft. long, and is inscribed on all 4 sides with debased Minuscule Roman characters of about the 7th or 8th cent. There is no doubt, however, that it is really a sepulchral monument to the memory of 2 individuals named CYADFAN and CYNGEN. There has been more discussion about this stone than about any other similar monument in Wales. Translated into English, the inscription runs as follows, according to the sides—

“Beneath the mount of Cynvael lies CYADFAN,
where
The earth extols his praise. Let him rest
without a blemish.
The body of Cyngen,
And between will be Marciau (or Marks).”

There are some other monumental effigies in the ch. Adjoining it is a

well dedicated to St. Cadfan, the water of which is considered a specific in scrofulous and cutaneous diseases.

Conveyances.—Rail to Aberdovey, 4 m.; Machynlleth, 14; Pwllheli; and Abergwynolwyn, 7.

Distances.—Dolgelley by coast-road, 20 m.—by mountain-road, $16\frac{1}{4}$ —by Tal-y-Llyn, 24; Tyn-y-Cornel, 16; Llanegryn, 4; Craig Aderyn, 6; Aberystwith, across the ferry, 15.

From Towyn there are the rly. and 2 roads to Machynlleth; the one usually followed, and by far the most beautiful, is through Aberdovey and up the river. The way runs at the foot of wooded hills, and pretty close to the sea-shore, which is fringed by long sand-banks and brackish pools, to 24 m. *Aberdyfi* or *Aberdovey Stat.* a very pretty and pleasant little watering-place, much frequented by those who prefer quiet and seclusion to the bustle of a fashionable watering-place. The Corbet Arms is a comfortable and excellent hotel, overlooking the sea, a little way out of the town, which consists of one long straggling street close to the water-side. The scenery on either bank of the river is of a lovely character—wooded banks backed up by high ranges of mountains. A good deal of business is done at the port, which is the shipping point for some lead-mines and the slate-quarries of the Corris mountains (Rte. 22). There is a ferry of a little more than a mile across the estuary of the Dyfi, which here divides N. and S. Wales, and for a considerable distance forms the boundary-line of Merionethshire, or Mervinia, as it was anciently called according to Leland:—

“Porrigitur vasto fluvii trans ostia Devi
Tractu terra potens hastis Mervinia longis.”

There is a district ch. here, Aberdovey belonging to the parish of Towyn.

Distances.—Aberystwith, by ferry, 11 m.; Machynlleth, 10; Towyn, 4.

[*Excursions to Aberystwith, crossing the ferry and joining the rly. at Ynisslas, or else by going round by Glandyfi Junct.*] From Aberdovey the rly. runs parallel with the turnpike-road for about 4 m. along the side of the Dyfi. [The alternations of overhanging rocks and woods, together with the ever-varying reaches of the river, make it a lovely drive the whole way to

29½ m. *Pennal*, a pretty village a little beyond the junction of the Aberdovey and Towyn roads. It is supposed to have been a Roman station, from the fact of a tomen or mound existing in the grounds of Talgarth, the beautiful seat of C. F. Thruston, Esq. At various times coins of the time of Domitian and Tiberius have been found, as well as at Cefn Caer on the opposite hill, from whence there are traces of a Roman road towards the river. Perhaps this may have been the site of Maglona, which is generally accredited to Machynlleth. Penmaen, between Talgarth and the Dyfi, is the residence of J. Vaughan, Esq.

31½ m. l. *Pantludw* (L. Ruck, Esq.), in whose grounds is a magnificent yew-tree, 32 ft. in girth.

The road, after following the rt. bank of the river, crosses it at Pont-ar-Dyfi, and descends by the l. bank to

34 m. *Machynlleth* (*Inns*: Herbert Arms and Unicorn). The rly., after parting company with the road, keeps close to the estuary of the Dovey, which it crosses at 29¾ m. GLANDYFI JUNCT., where a branch is given off to Aberystwith (Rte. 28), and from there it runs up the l. bank of the Dovey to

34 m. *Machynlleth Stat.* The neighbourhood of Machynlleth is described in Rte. 28. From its central situation the tourist will be enabled to diverge by rail to Aberystwith, Newtown, Welshpool, Shrewsbury, Aberdovey, Towyn, and

Dolgelley. The route by rail from Machynlleth to Llanidloes is given in Rte. 27. The road to Llanidloes, 19 m., is one of the wildest and most bleak in the whole county, running for miles on the bare summits of the ranges of hills which intervene between Plinlymmon and the Arans. For the first 5 m. the way lies up the picturesque valley of the Diflas, from which it turns off at 37 m. to enter upon a weary, desolate career over the mountains. 41 m. a road on rt. leads into the hills for about 1½ m. to *Glasllyn*—a round pool with a peculiarly bright gravelly bottom. There are no fish in it, owing, probably, to the existence of a mineral poison. A little further on is *Llyn Bugeilyn*, “the bottom covered in many parts with weeds, and very shallow; the water of a pitchy blackness, from the peaty bed in which it lies, and islanded here and there by masses of rock.”—*Medwin*.

This lake used to swarm with leeches, which, when it was stocked with trout, disappeared. It is sometimes visited by anglers from Machynlleth, but the distance and situation preclude it from being much resorted to. The trout are good, cut red, and are of a black inky colour, but they must be cooked directly, as they will not bear keeping. The views from this elevated spot are very fine, both over Cader Idris, the Arans, and Arenigs to the N., and the estuary of the Dyfi with the Cardiganshire hills to the S. The lake is preserved, but leave of fishing is granted at the Wynnstay Arms, Machynlleth.]

About 1½ m. from Llyn Bugeilyn is the Blaen Hafren, the source of the Severn, which, in the commencement of its career, issues from a small spring on the N.E. side of Plinlymmon. Drayton thus alludes to it:—

"Plynillimon's high praise no longer mine
 defer;
 What once the Druids told, how great those
 floods should be
 That here (most mightie hill) derive them-
 selves from thee;
 That all the Cambrian hills, which high'st
 their heads doe beare,
 With most obsequious showes of lowe sub-
 jected feare
 Should to thy greatness stoupe; and all the
 brookes that be
 Doe homage to those floods that issued out
 of thee:
 To princelie Severne first."

The large mass of hill to the l. is
 that of *Tarannon*, the river of the
 same name intervening. The rocks
 of which this district is composed
 have given the name to the *Tarannon*
 shales, which occupy a position be-
 tween the *Llandovery* or *Pentamerus*
 rocks and the upper *Silurian*. "The
Tarannon shales, occasionally of hard
 slaty character, and of various co-
 lours—in some places so pale a grey
 as to have been termed pale slates—
 have been shown by Messrs. Forbes
 and Aveline to form a geological
 band of great persistence, which, be-
 ginning in small dimensions near
Llandovery, expands in its course
 through *Radnor* and *Montgomery*.
 It is largely and clearly exhibited
 about *New Bridge* and at *Tarannon*,
 between *Llanbrynmair* and *Llan-
 idloes*. Fossils are rare, and those
 which occur do not absolutely deter-
 mine whether the bed should be
 classed with the upper *Llandovery*
 rocks or with the *Wenlock* forma-
 tion."—*Siluria*. 42 m. passing a
 dropping well, the road crosses the
 bend in the river *Twymyn*, a little
 way down which there is a fine
 waterfall 130 ft. in height. 42½ m. rt.
 is the square entrenched camp of *Pen-
 y-grog-pren*. 45 m. a small roadside
 inn, with the insinuating sign of "Stay
 a Little." Crossing the *Severn* at
 its junction with the *Clywedog*, the
 tourist enters, 53 m., *Llanidloes*
 (Rte. 27). *Hotels*: *Queen's Head*;
Trewithan Arms.

ROUTE 26.

OSWESTRY TO MACHYNLLETH, BY LLANFAIR AND MALLWYD.

There is no conveyance by this route.

Oswestry (*Hotel*: *Wynnstay Arms*,
 very comfortable) is a pleasant, busy
 Shropshire town of some 9000 Inhab.,
 situated amidst prettily-wooded hills
 in the district lying between *Watt's*
 and *Offa's Dyke*—the former, indeed,
 passing close to the N.E. outskirts.
 Though within the Shropshire bor-
 der, its neighbourhood to Wales gives
 it much of the character of a Welsh
 town; and as much Welsh as Eng-
 lish, if not more, may be heard
 spoken here on a market-day. For-
 merly called *Maserfield*, it derived
 its subsequent name of *Oswestry*
 from the northern King *Oswald* and
 the adjunct "tre" or town. The like
 conjunction of a Saxon proper name
 with the British "tre," a township,
 may be observed in *Ingestre*, the vill
 of *Inge*, a manor near *Stafford*, now
 belonging to the Earl of *Shrewsbury*.
Oswald was King of *Northumber-
 land*, and was slain here in battle in
 642, while endeavouring to dispossess
Penda King of *Mercia* of his terri-
 tory. As he had been a benefactor to
 many monasteries, he was, of course,
 canonised, and the well erected to the
 memory of *St. Oswald* still remains
 a little distance from the ch. It

was formerly well guarded by a castle which stood on an eminence to the N., and walls, in which were 4 gates, known as Black-gate, New-gate, Willow-gate, and Beatrice-gate. The ch. is a venerable-looking building, occupying the site of a conventual establishment: according to Leland, "it was much injured during the siege in 1644, when the Royalists demolished the tower, which stood without the town-walls, to avoid the risk of annoyance from its summit." There are still some interesting timber houses in the town, which maintains the character given it by Churchyard:—

"This towne doth front on Wales as right as lyne,
So sondrie townes in Shropshire doe for troth,
As Ozestri, a prettie towne full fine,
Which may be lov'd, be likte, and praysed both.
It stands so trim, and is maintayned so cleane,
And peopled is with folke that well doe meane,
That it deserves to be enrouled and shryned
In each good heart and every manly mynd."

About 1 m. to the N., a little to the rt. of the branch railway to Gobowen, stands *Old Oswestry*, otherwise called *Caer Ogyrfan*, a fine British post, defended by a triple rampart of unusual height. The total fortifications covered a space of between 40 and 50 acres, exclusive of the area, which is about 16. A local tradition inclines to the belief that the ancient town stood here, and has gradually travelled away to its present position. There is another entrenchment, called *Castell Brogyntyn*, of a circular form and surrounded by a dyke, supposed to have been erected by one Brogyntyn, a natural son of Owen Madoc, Prince of Powis. It is situated on the W. border of the park of *Porkington*, the beautiful seat of W. Ormsby Gore, Esq. Oswestry is a corporate town, and holds sessions for its own borough, at which a Recorder presides. It possesses a handsome

town-hall, good markets, a House of Industry outside the town, and a grammar-school founded in Henry IV.'s time by one David Holbeck.

Distances.—Llanrhaidr-yn-Mochnant, 14; Pistyll Rhaidr, 18; Llanfyllin, 14; Chester, 21; Ellesmere, 11; Whittington, 2.

Conveyances.—By rail to Chester, Whitechurch, and Shrewsbury, 21 m.; Welshpool, 16; Machynlleth and Aberystwith.

1 m. rt. is *Broomhall*, and 2 m. rt. *Llanforda*, the seat of H. B. W. Wynn, Esq. 2 m. rt. a road which very soon crosses Offa's Dyke runs to Llanrhaidr-yn-Mochnant, 9½ m. (Rte. 21).

At Trefonen, 2½ m., the dyke falls into the road for a short distance. 5 m. the Shrewsbury, Llanrhaidr, and Bala road here crosses at right angles. On l. is the picturesque escarpment of *Llanymynach Hill*, from whence (at the quarries of Porthywaen) enormous quantities of mountain-limestone are extracted. Copper seems also to have been worked here by the Romans, who have left traces of their excavations in a large cave or Ogo, at the end of which, in 1761, were found several skeletons, together with some tools and coins of the reign of Antoninus. Offa's Dyke is carried along the W. brow of the hill, which is worth ascending for the sake of the beautiful view, particularly towards the Berwyns. [From hence a road of 9 m. runs along the N. bank of the Tanat to Llanrhaidr, passing 1¼ m. *Llanyblodwel*, the church of which was restored and an octagonal tower erected by the late Rev. John Parker, one of the first of Welsh archaeologists, who possessed an unique collection of drawings relative to the architecture and ecclesiology of the country.

5 m. *Llangedwyn* ch. and Hall, a seat of Sir W. W. Wynn, Bart., and

the residence of C. W. W. Wynn, Esq. From hence a road crosses the Tanat to Llanfyllin, $4\frac{1}{2}$ m.

6 m. rt. is a large camp known as Llwyn Bryn Dinas. 8 m. l. is an erect stone on rising ground above the road. 9 m. Llanrhaiadr-yn-Mochmant (Rte. 21).]

At *Llansantfraid*, $8\frac{1}{2}$ m., where there is a stat., the Llanfyllin branch of the Oswestry and Welshpool Rly. (Rte. 27) is crossed, and the road is carried S.W. up the vale of the Vyrnwy to 14 m. *Meifod*, a place of considerable importance in the ecclesiastical polity of Powisland. The ch. is large and interesting, having 2 aisles, with a battlemented tower at the W. end of the N. aisle, of the date of the 15th cent. A coffin-lid of the 12th cent. is built into the wall near the font. The ch. yard is remarkable for its size, enclosing an area said to be of 9 acres, dedicated to St. Tyssilio, a Prince of Powis. There are some pleasant seats in this neighbourhood: *Dyffryn*; *Peniarth* (J. Davies, Esq.); *Penylan*, a seat formerly belonging to the Mytton family (J. B. Pryse, Esq.); *Maes-mawr* (W. Curling, Esq.); *Cyfronydd* (R. Jones, Esq.).

Meifod is thought by some antiquaries to have been the site of the Roman station Mediolanum, but it is usually considered more probable that the locality was at 16 m. l. *Mathrafal*, a farm-house, where once a palace existed belonging to the princes of Powis. On the wooded eminence on rt. of the road is a circular entrenchment known as Bryn Saethau. A little before arriving at Mathrafal the road crosses the river Bechan. It is, in fact, the Vyrnwy, which at this point takes that name, the 2 streams which here unite to form that river being called respectively the Bechan and the Einion. The former again bears the name of Vyrnwy some miles higher up, and takes its rise on the southern slopes

of the Berwyn mountains, flowing S.E. through a romantic but rather desolate country. The Einion, which is soon known as the Banw, rises in the high grounds to the E. of Mallwyd and Dinas Mowddwy. As a fishing river the Vyrnwy was formerly so celebrated, that it was called the "amis piscosus." "It in an early trout-stream, and in highest order from the 3rd or 4th week in March to the end of April. Salmon come up in large numbers, and grayling and other fish abound."—*Cliffe*. $17\frac{1}{2}$ m. *Llangynyw*, above which is the circular camp of Pen-y-Castell. [18 m. l. a road runs to Welshpool, $6\frac{1}{2}$ m., crossing the Einion; and passing l. Cyfronydd, the seat of R. Jones, Esq.]

20 m. *Llanfair Caer Einion* (Inn: Goat), a neat little town, suitable to the requirements of the angler in the Vyrnwy and neighbouring streams. It obtains its specific name from the Castell Caer Einion, about 3 m. to the E. "The ch. contains the tomb of a knight."

Distances.—Welshpool, 7 m.; Oswestry, 20; Newtown, 11.

[$4\frac{1}{2}$ m. to the S.W., on the banks of the Rhiw, is *Llanllugan*, where once stood a religious establishment of some importance. No traces of it remain.]

Now commences a long ascent up the valley of the Banw, previous to arriving at the watershed which separates the rivers of Montgomeryshire from the Dyfi and Merionethshire. 25 m. *Llanerfyl*, and overlooking it on l. *Gardden*, a circular rampart, enclosing an area of about 70 yds.

[A long line of hill extends to the S., called Mynydd Drum, on the summit of which are 3 small lakes.] Here the road crosses the Banw, and runs along its N. bank to $26\frac{1}{2}$ m. *Cann Office*, a good roadside inn,

principally patronised by anglers, for whom it is very convenient. On the opposite side of the river is *Llangadfan*. The ch. is dedicated to St. Cadfan, the patron saint of Towyn. A great riot took place here in 1645, when Vavasour Powell came to sequester the benefices of the clergy in Montgomeryshire, on which occasion the rectory was burnt down. The *Eira*, a considerable stream, here flows from the hills on the S. About 3 m. down the valley is *Moel-y-Dolwen*, an oblong camp of 100 yds. in length.

It is evident from the number of early fortified posts that great store was set upon this district by the inhabitants; and the frequent *carne-ddau*, many of which have been opened and found to contain "cist-vaens," bear token of burials, most probably of those who had fallen in fight. [From Cann Office a road on rt. runs to Llanfyllin, 11 m., crossing the Vyrnwy at Pont-llagel. Near it is *Llwydiarth*, a mansion formerly belonging to the Vaughan family, but now to Sir W. W. Wynn.] At 28 m. near *Garthbibio* the road crosses the *Twrch*, a stream descending from the outlying ranges between the Arans and the Berwyns. From hence begins a weary, desolate ascent of bleak mountain road, enjoyable only in fine, clear weather, when the distant ranges of Plinlymmon are conspicuous objects in the S. The watershed and head of the pass is reached at *Bwlch-y-fedwen*, $31\frac{3}{4}$ m., when the traveller, impatient to reach scenes of cultivation, commences his descent, and enters Merionethshire.

At $34\frac{1}{2}$ m. the *Tafolog* river flows in from the S., and adds its waters to the stream which has accompanied the road from the head of the pass, both together entering the pastoral vale of Dyfi. $36\frac{1}{2}$ m. *Mallwyd*, the paradise of artists, who, tempted by the variety of lovely scenery around, and by the comfortable ac-

commodations of the Peniarth Arms, are frequent visitors. The situation is as charming as can well be imagined. "Placed between the salient angles of 3 abrupt mountains, which form a grand natural amphitheatre, Camlin rising with rude majesty immediately opposite, and the conical Aran lifting up its head, with its different cwms, are reflected with varying tint and shade in the waters of the Dyfi."—*Evans*.

The ch. yard is celebrated for its yews, one of which has a girth of 23 ft. Dr. Davies, the author of a dictionary, was formerly the incumbent; and, in opposition to the orders of Archbishop Laud, removed the altar from the E. end into the centre of the ch. There is a very picturesque waterfall at *Pont-Fallwyd*, a little distance from the village, on the road to Dinas Mowddwy (Rte. 23).

From *Mallwyd* the road pursues a lovely course along the eastern bank of the Dyfi, although the scenery is not to be compared with that of the mountains higher up. As a fishing river the Dyfi has fallen off; and, indeed, in the summer is frequently so dry that there is scarce water enough for the purpose. For this defect it makes up with such startling rapidity after rainy weather that its bounds are overflowed, and great damage done to the lands on either side. 41 m. *Cemmaes*, before arriving at which on rt. is *Aberhiarth Hall*, formerly a residence of Sir J. Dashwood King. At $42\frac{1}{2}$ m. l. the waters of the Dyfi are increased by those of the *Twymyn*, and the road is joined by the mail-road from Shrewsbury to Aberystwith. 48 m. *Machynlleth* (Rte. 28).

ROUTE 27.

FROM OSWESTRY TO LLANIDLOES, BY
WELSHPOOL (LLANFYLLIN) AND
NEWTOWN — RAIL; AND ON TO
ABERYSTWITH BY ROAD.

Oswestry (Rte. 26) has within the last two years been connected with Llanidloes by a rly. which is destined to play a very important part in the internal communications of Wales. During the rly. mania one of the schemes propounded was the Manchester and Milford Haven line through Oswestry, a scheme which was regarded as chimerical at the time. By degrees, however, this great trunk rly., as it may truly be called, has been completed, and the line is continuous from Oswestry to Llanidloes and Brecon, from whence the seaboard is reached, viâ Merthyr and Cardiff, as also by Neath and Swansea. The rly. leaves Oswestry from the Great Western Stat., and runs due S. nearly parallel with Watt's Dyke, which is on the l., and having on the rt. the turnpike-road to Llan-y-mynach.

2 m. *Sweeney Hall*, and l. 1 m. *Aston*, the splendid seat of Mr. Lloyd. 3 m. *Llynchys* Stat., near which is a small lake. On l. is the village of Moreton. The rly. is here crossed by a tramroad which conveys a large quantity of lime from the mountain-limestone quarries of Porth-y-waen to a wharf on the Ellesmere Canal. The abrupt hill of Llan-y-mynach rises with precipitous escarpment on rt., and forms a striking

feature in the landscape. It possesses valuable limestone quarries, upwards of 84,000 tons having been obtained in 1858.—*Mining Records*.

There are caves in this mountain which are said to be of considerable extent.

5½ m. LLAN-Y-MYNACH JUNCT. [from whence a branch line is given off to Llanfyllin, through the village of *Llansantffraid*, the ch. of which exhibits a few details of the 14th cent., although the greater part is of the 17th. From hence the line follows the pretty valley of the Cain to *Llanfyllin*, 6 m. 2 m. rt. *Llanfechan*, near which is *Bodynfol*, the beautifully-situated seat of R. B. M. Maurice, Esq. 4 m. l. *Bryngwyn* (M. Williams, Esq.).

Llanfyllin (Inn: Wynnstay Arms), a pretty Welsh townlet which boasts of a charter given by Llewelyn ap Gruffydd in the time of Edward II., and "is governed by a high steward, recorder, 2 bailiffs, 14 burgesses, a town-clerk, and 2 serjeants-at-arms." The ch. is celebrated for its peal of bells, and the town for its excellent "cwrw," which must have exercised a very fatal influence, if we are to believe the proverb that "Old ale fills Llanfyllin with young widows."

Close to the town are *Lhwyn* (J. Dugdale, Esq.), and *Bodfach*, which formerly belonged to the Kyffin family, from whom it descended to the Mostyns. It is now the residence of J. Lomax, Esq. It was at one time the retreat of Lord Castlemaine, ambassador from James II. to the Pope. From Llanfyllin there is a hilly road of between 5 and 6 m. to *Llanrhaidr*.] [From Llan-y-mynach there is also a direct line to Shrewsbury, of 18 m. in length, called the Potteries, Shrewsbury, and North Wales Rly. The stats. between Llan-y-mynach and Shrewsbury are Maesbrook, Knowsley, Nesscliff, Shrawadin, Ford, Hanwood Road, and

Red Hill, where the line joins the Shrewsbury and Minsterley Rly. But, in consequence of financial difficulties, the trains are discontinued.]

Llanymynach is a pretty village, situated on an eminence on the Vyrnwy, which is here crossed by a handsome stone bridge. The ch., a large building, has been restored in the Norm. style. Crossing the river, on rt. is the village of *Llandysilio*, through which, and indeed forming the turnpike-road, runs Offa's Dyke.

7 m. *Four Crosses* Stat.: a road on rt. leads to Llansantfraid, 3 m., underneath an eminence occupied by the camp of Brynmawr. [A road on l. joins the Welshpool and Shrewsbury road, passing *Llandrinio*, 2 miles; Alberbury, 7 miles.] The line now enters the broad alluvial valley of the *Severn*, which runs from Welshpool in a very serpentine, and it must be confessed a very sluggish stream. Conspicuous far and wide on the l. rise up the isolated *Breidden Hills*, the most northerly of which is crowned by a pillar in honour of Lord Rodney. This district is also traversed by the Montgomeryshire Canal, which prior to the days of railways was an important communication between the Dee, the Mersey, and the Severn. Much of the land lying alongside of the banks of the river is continually subject to inundations, which in the last century created terrible havoc. They have, however, been to a considerable extent obviated by embankments and sluices, made at the cost of 26,000*l*.

12 m. *Pool Quay* Stat., from whence there is a ferry across the Severn to Trewern at the foot of Moel-y-goffa. A considerable trade is carried on here in the exportation of barytes. An abbey known as Strata Marcella, or Ystrad Marchell, formerly existed about $\frac{1}{2}$ m. further on. It was founded

by Owain Cyfeiliog in 1170, for monks of the Cistercian order, but all traces have disappeared, save in the nomenclature of the localities around. An embankment, which runs northwards, is still known as Tir-y-Mynach, or "the monks' bank." A very pretty Ear. Eng. ch. has lately been erected at Pool by the Earl of Powis. The country on rt. becomes prettily broken and varied as the tourist approaches

16 m. WELSHPOOL JUNCT. with Shrewsbury line (Rte. 28) (*Hotel*, Royal Oak, tolerable), a thriving, well-built town, in reality, though not in name, the capital of Montgomeryshire, containing the assize courts for the county, as also being the dépôt for the militia. James II. granted it a charter, the jurisdiction of the Corporation extending to the remarkable distance of from 4 to 6 m. all around the town. Both the general tourist and the archæologist may spend a day or two in Welshpool very profitably in exploring the district around. The ch. is situated almost on the outskirts. It has a massive, well-proportioned tower, and an ugly nave of the last century. The chancel, part of the original ch., contains a good Dee. E. window. The roof is panelled and of Early Perp. style, said, but on no authority, to have been transferred from the Abbey of Strata Marcella. A curious effect is produced by the chancel arch not being in the centre of the ch., owing to the extreme breadth of the S. aisle. There is a good monument by Richardson to the memory of the late Earl Powis, and also a golden chalice given in 1662 by Thomas Davies, a former governor of the English colonies on the African coast, as a thankoffering for preservation of health. The inscription winds up with the following hearty denunciation on any sacrilegious person who should attempt to steal it:—

"A quo usu, si quis facinorosus eundem calicem in posterum alienaret (quod avertat Deus) Dei vindicis supremo tribunali pœnas luat."

Close to the town (on the other side of the canal) is a small *tomen* or mount, which probably guarded the passage of the Severn.

The great attraction, however, of Welshpool is the magnificent park and building of *Castell Coch* or *Powis Castle*, the seat of the noble family of Powis. As the centre of the old district of Powisland, a fortress has existed here from a date as early as the beginning of the 12th cent., when Cadwgan first began to erect a castle, which was completed by subsequent princes of Powis. Owain ap Gruffydd, holding it under protection of King John, incurred thereby the displeasure of Llewelyn ap Iorwerth, who dismantled it. It, however, came again into possession of Hawys, daughter of Owain Gwynwynwyn, who married Sir John Charlton, afterwards summoned to Parliament as Baron of Powis, from whose family it afterwards passed into that of the Greys, by marriage with the heiress of Edward Lord Powis. By purchase, in the reign of Elizabeth, it next belonged to the Herberts. The castle, as it at present stands, has been much altered and modernized. Externally it is of red sandstone, and occupies a commanding situation on the summit of a rock which has been scarped so as to form a wall, the top serving as a terrace. The principal alterations in the interior probably date about James I. and Elizabeth, though the walls, according to Mr. Parker, may be of the 13th cent. There is a gallery of the latter part of the 16th cent. Many objects of great interest are shown—a Byzantine cup belonging to Mary of Modena, ancient weapons, sculpture, relics from Herculaneum, curiosities from India,

and a rare library. The park, which is entered by a gate out of the main street of the town, is free to everybody to enter and lounge about at his own will—in fact, a free park, for which the townsmen of Welshpool cannot be too thankful to the noble owner. The castle is approached through the outer offices. The grounds were laid out by the celebrated landscape-gardener Capability Brown, who, in his anxiety to obtain an uniform level, actually proposed blowing up the picturesque rock on which the castle stands. The views from the terrace are exquisitely beautiful, especially that looking through a long vista of trees on to the distant peaks of Moel-y-golfa and the Breidden Hills.

Rail to Shrewsbury, 18 m.; Oswestry, 16; and Aberystwith, 14.

Distances. — Montgomery, 8 m.; Guilsfield, 3; Llanfair Caer Einion, 7; Breidden Hills, 6; Berriew, 4½; Meifod, 7.

[An excursion may be made to *Guilsfield*, an extremely pretty village lying amongst wooded hills nearly 3 m. distant. It has a fine old ch. which was attached to the abbey of Ystrad Marchell. The whole district between this and Meifod (Rte. 26) is remarkable for the number of camps and intrenchments which appear to crown almost every summit. The most important of these is *Gaerfawr*, in very good preservation, overlooking the road running N. to join the one to Oswestry. In the neighbourhood is *Garth*, the seat of the Mytton family (a branch of Mytton of Halston), who have been seated in Montgomeryshire since the 16th cent. It came into their possession by marriage with the heiress of the Wymms. Near the village are also *Trawscoed* (R. S. Trevor, Esq.), *Trelydan Hall* (Col. Pryce), *Cross Wood* (Mrs. Jenkins), *Derwen* (Mrs. Beck). Between the vicarage (Rev. T. Luxmoore) and the stream are vestiges

of an ancient moat. The pedestrian may extend his wanderings over hill and dale through a very lovely country to Meifod, between 4 and 5 m. further.]

[The road to *Llanfair Caer Einion* leaves Welshpool at the western extremity, passing immediately outside the town *Llanerchydol*, the seat of the late D. Pugh, Esq., M.P. On l. are the woods and swelling hills of Powis Park. 4 m. a road rt. runs up to Meifod. On l. is *Dolarddyn Hall* (Capt. Jones); a road on l. leads to Berriew, there to join the road to Newtown, passing $\frac{3}{4}$ m. the village of *Castell Caer Einion*, where formerly stood a fortress, erected in 1151 by Einion, one of the sons of Cunedda Wledig, King of Wales. It was subsequently destroyed by Owain Cyfeiliog, and no traces now remain, except a raised mound in the ch. yard. 7 m. *Llanfair* (Rte. 26).]

From Welshpool the rly. runs to Newtown through Montgomery, to which town [it is a pleasant excursion (of 8 m.), following the Newtown turnpike-road for $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. The traveller then branches off to the l., crossing the Severn at Kilkeyydd bridge, and passing 3 m. rt. *Eddleston House* (J. Edmonds, Esq.), or he may leave the town across the canal bridge and be ferried over the river at Leighton Ford. By this latter route he may visit the gardens and grounds of *Leighton Hall*, the seat of John Naylor, Esq. Amongst the pictures in the house is the original engraving of Martin's 'Joshua commanding the sun to stand still.' The tall spire of the new E. E. ch. is a conspicuous feature in the landscape. These 2 roads join at 4 m. at the Heath Inn, close to *Offa's Dyke*, which is distinctly to be traced running parallel with the road as it descends from the *Long Mountain*, a range of hills which have a course N.E. between this

point and the Breidden Hills. In appearance they are rather monotonous and formal, being composed geologically of the lower Ludlow shales, which generally show the effects of denudation in their rounded outlines. Several ancient roads and tumuli will reward the search of the antiquarian, who will find on the summit the fine earthwork of *Caer Digol*, consisting of a lofty bank surrounded by a broad ditch. It is circular, and had one principal opening towards the S. Here was fought the last contested battle for Welsh independence in 1294, on which occasion the Welsh were commanded by Madoc, cousin of Llewelyn. If the day is fine, a visit to the Beacon Ring (1330 ft.) will well repay the tourist by the extensive views that it affords.

Perched high up on the S.W. slope is the little mountain ch. of *Wolston Mynd* or *Trelystan*.

4 m. a road on l. branches off to Chirbury, 3 m.

$4\frac{1}{2}$ m. *Nanteribba Hall*, a seat of Viscount Hereford. The antiquary should visit the *Moat*, a projecting mass of trap, about 40 ft. high, surrounded by a deep trench, and only accessible by one narrow path. In the last cent. a square building, with circular bastions, existed on the summit.

On rt. a road branches to Newtown, joining the Welshpool road and passing Forden church. 2 m. in the flat between the road and the Severn is *Caer*, erroneously called *Caerflôs*, which is believed to have been a Roman stat. A little further on is *Cuerhorcell*, the seat of W. Williams, Esq.

8 m. *Montgomery* (*Hotels*: Dragon; Wymstay Arms), a pleasant sleepy town, inhabited chiefly by persons of moderate means, who prefer the comforts of life without the bustle of large cities. It has not always been a sleepy place, however, for few

posts have been so stoutly battled for in all the turbulent history of the Marches. It was originally Tref Faldwyn, or the town of Baldwyn, a lieutenant of the Marches in the time of the Conqueror. The castle was garrisoned by William Rufus, and, having been taken and destroyed by the Welsh, was rebuilt by the Earl of Shrewsbury. Twice again was it demolished by Llewelyn ap Iorwerth and twice restored by Henry III. It was at one time held by the ancestors of Lord Herbert of Chirbury, who made it their principal residence. During the civil war it was garrisoned for the king by Lord Herbert, but soon yielded to Sir Thomas Myddleton, who, having been compelled to beat a retreat towards Oswestry, was obliged to leave the castle. Lord Byron then attacked it, and Sir Thomas, having returned with reinforcements, gave battle, in which the Royalists were signally defeated. The fortress was then dismantled. It is magnificently situated on a projecting tongue of rock, with deeply-scarped sides, and was composed of an inner and outer court, separated by 4 deep fosses cut in the rock. What little is now left is fast going to decay. On an eminence, separated by a deep hollow on the western side, is the fine British camp of Fridd Faldwyn, of an oval form and protected by two ditches. Probably this was the site of Baldwyn's Castle. At any rate the visitor should not fail to ascend for the sake of the very lovely view. The ch. contains some good lancet-windows and E. E. piers. It is of cruciform shape, the N. transept being surmounted by a modern tower. This portion of the ch., known as the Brockton transept, was built by the Prior of Chirbury for the tenants of Lymore Manor. The S. transept, known as the Lymore chancel, contains a monument to the father of Lord Herbert of

Chirbury, and 2 effigies belonging to the Mortimer family, about the time of Richard II.

The town was formerly walled, and, according to Leland, "Great ruins of the waulle yet appeare, and the remains of 4 gates, thus called: Kedewen Gate, Chirbury Gate, Arthur's Gate, and Kerry Gate." In the N.E. part of the town is the site of Black Hall, the birthplace of the pious and learned George Herbert. 1 m. on the road to Churchstoke is *Lymore Park*, the seat of Lord Powis. The house is a good specimen of the domestic architecture of the 16th cent., and contains all the original panellings and wainscots. The whole of the E. side of the park is bounded by Offa's Dyke, which here divides Montgomeryshire from Salop, England from Wales.

Distances.—Welshpool, 8 m.; Newtown, 9; Chirbury, $2\frac{1}{2}$; Abermule, 4; Corndon Hill, $5\frac{1}{2}$.]

From Welshpool the rly. runs S., passing $20\frac{1}{4}$ m. *Forden Stat.* [On rt. is the village of *Berriew*, a little above which there is a pretty waterfall on the river Rhiw, which here joins the Severn. 2 roads branch off from hence, one to Castell Caer Einion, $3\frac{1}{2}$ m. (p. 162), and the other along the l. bank of the Rhiw to Manafon. Between the turnpike-road and river, is an erect stone, known as Maen Beuno. Close to Berriew is *Vaynor*, the beautiful residence of Lyon Winder, Esq. It once belonged to the family of Devereux (Viscount Hereford), from whom it was alienated.

On the rt. bank of the river is *Glansevern*, the seat of Mrs. Owen; and a little further on *Garthmill Hall* (A. J. Johnes, Esq.).]

$22\frac{1}{4}$ m. *Montgomery Stat.*

$25\frac{3}{4}$ m. *ABERMULE JUNCT.* [near which, but on the opposite side of the river, is *Dolforwyn Hall* (Mrs. Pryce). The turnpike-road, which

has been running close to the Montgomeryshire Canal for some distance, crosses the Severn at Dolforwyn, joining on the other side one road from Forden and another from Montgomery. On the wooded eminence above Dolforwyn Hall are the slight remains of Dolforwyn Castle, occupying the site of a British camp. It was a quadrangular building, of no great strength, said to have been erected about 1420. About 2 m. further W. is the pretty village of Bettws Cedewen, the ch. of which has a steeple built in 1531, by "the vicar, John Meredyth, under the curious title of Campanile, for Templi Pyramis." The ch. was attached to the monastery of Llanllugan. In the vicinity is *Gregynog Hall*, the residence of the Hon. H. Tracey, brother of Lord Sudeley, who is Lord Lieutenant of Montgomeryshire.]

[A short branch of rly. runs from Abermule Junct. up the valley of the Mule to *Kerry*, a pretty village, situated at the foot of the Kerry hills, an extensive and rather desolate block of mountains, which, together with Clun Forest, occupy a considerable district between Newtown, Clun, and Bishop's Castle. The ch. contains a good marble monument in memory of one Richard Jones, who founded a school here. There are several ancient works in the parish. "The *Mot*" is the residence of the vicar. Near the village also are *Dolforgan* (R. P. Long, Esq.) and *Bryllywarch* (John Naylor, Esq.)]

The road now follows the rt. bank of the Severn through a prettily undulating country to 30 m. *Newtown Stat.* (*Hotels*: Boar's Head, indifferent; Elephant and Castle), a modern manufacturing town, where the visitor from the north of England will recognise the familiar sound of the clogs of the weavers as they leave the factories. A large

business is done here in fine flannels, "the market for which was formerly held at Welshpool; but a feud arising between the two places, in consequence of an electioneering contest, the manufacturers determined to remove the market to Newtown, which was accordingly done on the 6th Sept. 1832." A large building has been erected at a cost of 4000*l.* for the purpose of holding this market. Notwithstanding its advantages, Newtown does not prosper, owing, it is said, to the popular objections to machinery in lieu of hand-weaving. It is a well-built place of some 6000 Inhab., with more bustle in it than the tourist generally finds in Welsh towns. In the centre of the town is the old ch., fast going to decay. The wind whistles through the broken windows, and keeps rude holiday amongst the mouldering pillars, while the churchyard is slovenly and uncared for—a place where

"Flowering weeds and copses dress
The bones of Desolation's nakedness."

It is indeed a pity, if not a reproach, that the inhabitants of Newtown should not endeavour to restore the old building before it is too late. In form it consists of a nave and chancel, with an aisle of equal breadth on the S. side, divided from the main body by a remarkable wooden arcade of 8 bays, "octagonal pillars of oak-carving, obtusely-pointed arches of timber cut out of the solid. At the centres of the arches there are pendants, and the capitals of the pillars exhibit a tendency to cinquecento. The roof combines the hammer-beams with the forms so common in Central Wales. Those in the S. chancel are decorated with angels of remarkable size and rubicundity." —*W. Basil Jones*. Of the windows some are Late Perp., whilst others are Dec. This ch. formerly possessed an altarpiece of the Last Supper, painted and given by the poet Dyer; also a remarkably beautiful Late

Perp. roodscreen, resplendent with carving, gold, and colour. With the usual and customary legend, it is said to have been brought from the religious house of Abbey Cwmhir, some miles distant in Radnorshire. The screen fortunately has not shared the same fate as the ch. itself, but has been removed and put up in the new ch., which was built in 1847. A little outside the town is *Newtown Hall*, formerly the seat of Sir John Pryse, noted for having married 3 wives. Such power had the bonds of matrimony over him "that he kept the 2 first wives after their decease in an embalmed state, placing them in his chamber, one on each side of his bed. The 3rd, however, admitting no rivalry either by the living or the dead, refused to supply their place until their remains were buried." — *Nicholson*. Newtown is classical ground to Socialists, as being the birth-place and burial-place of the notorious Robert Owen.

Rail to Builth, 32 m.; Brecon and Llanidloes, 13½; Oswestry and Machynlleth, 30; Aberystwith and Shrewsbury, 32.

Distances.—Llandrindod Wells, 24 m.; Kerry, 3; Bishop's Castle, 15; Welshpool, 14; Llanfair-Caer-Einion, 10; Carno, 11; Builth, 32; Abbey Cwmhir, 15.

[About 1 m. on the Builth road is a picturesque waterfall, about 80 ft. in height.] The rly. to Llanidloes keeps along the S. or rt. bank of the Severn, which however it crosses before it reaches the latter place.

34½ m. at MOAT LANE JUNCT. (Rte. 28) the line is joined by the Machynlleth Rly. for Aberystwith. The scenery, which has been pastoral and soft, becomes bolder at 37½ m. *Llandinam*, romantically situated on the brink of a cliff overhanging the river, and at the foot of a range of hills

which rise to the height of 1895 ft. The ch. possesses a singular wooden belfry. On rt. is a hill called *Cefn Carnedd*, which is surmounted by a very extensive camp about 200 yards long. From Moat Lane Stat. a coach runs to Aberystwith.

39½ m. l. *Berthuddu*, the seat of Mrs. Broom.

43½ m. *Llanidloes* Stat. (Rte. 25) (*Inns*: Queen's Head; Trewithan Arms), at present the terminus of the rly., which it is intended to extend through Llangurig and Rhayader to Builth and Llandovery, thus completing an uninterrupted chain of communication between N. and S. Wales. Like Newtown, Llanidloes is an emporium of the flannel trade, although in situation it has very much the advantage over it. The Severn, which up to this point is called by its ancient Welsh name of Hafren, is here joined by the Clywedog—the source of the former river, with which the traveller has kept "gentle fellowship" for so long a distance, being only 11 m. from the town. The only object worth inspection is the ch., which is one of the most unique and beautiful buildings in the principality. The aisle is separated from the nave by 6 pointed arches, supported by piers, having the capitals ornamented with carved palm-leaves. The roof is of carved oak, the hammerbeams being exquisitely finished off with winged figures holding shields. There are 17 of these figures on each side, of which the 2 easternmost are of females, while the remainder represent ecclesiastics.

Abbey Cwmhir again is the repository from whence these treasures have been drawn, and probably with more reason than as regards the roodscreen at Newtown.

About 3 m. N. of the town is *Llyn Ebyr*, a pool of about 100 acres in extent, situated on the high ground overlooking the vale of Taranon

and the village of Trefeglwys. Trout, perch, and pike abound in it.

Conveyances.—Rail to Oswestry and Machynlleth, 19 m.; also to Builth and Brecon.

Distances.—Newtown, $13\frac{1}{2}$ m.; Llangurig, 5; Rhayader, 15—old road by St. Harmon, 12; Machynlleth, 19; Trefeglwys, 4.

[An excursion may be made up the Severn to its source, and from thence to the summit of Plinlymmon, between 13 and 14 m.; but the best ascent is from Dyffryn Castell, on the Rhayader and Aberystwith road; neither of them should be made without a guide, on account of the dangerous bogs that exist. The bridle-road on the N. or I. bank should be followed to Blaen Hafren, almost at the head of the valley, where the infant stream rolls over a lofty ledge of slate rock. Perhaps of all the loftier Welsh mountains few repay the toil of ascent so little as *Plinlymmon*, considering its height of 2463 ft. Properly speaking, it consists of 3 mountains, which may be considered the centre of a large group spreading into subordinate chains. From near the summit spring the 5 rivers of the Rheidol, the Llyfiant, a tributary of the Dyfi, the Wye, and the Severn; the sources of the 2 last being scarcely 2 m. apart.

"To princelle Severne first; next to her sister Wye,
Which to her elder's court her course doth still apply.
But Rydol, young'st and least, and for the other's pride,
Not finding fitting room vpon the rising side,
Alone vnto the west directt she takes her way,
So all the neighbouring hills Plinillimmon obey."—*Drayton*.

The pedestrian may vary his excursion by descending the course of the Gwy or Wye until it crosses the turnpike-road at Pont-rhyd-galed, and from thence to Llangurig.] The road leaves Llanidloes to follow the

course of the little river Dulas. On rt., on the opposite bank of the Severn, is *Mount Severn* (Colonel Hunter).

44 m. I. *Maenol* (T. Hayward, Esq.).

$48\frac{1}{2}$ m. is the village of *Llangurig*, most charmingly situated in the vale of Wye, which has even in this its spring-time lost much of its early impetuous character. From hence the traveller may proceed up the valley of the Wye, of which he takes leave at $53\frac{1}{2}$ m., but still ascends by the course of the Afon Tarenig, its tributary, as far as the Plinlymmon Inn, beyond which, at a place called *Steddfa Gurig*, the narrow ridge forming the summit level is crossed. Here the tourist enters a different valley (whose waters flow in an opposite direction to those of the Wye), bounded by mountains whose rugged outline declares them to be composed of slate. Every now and then the appearance of a solitary building, with its fast-driving water-wheel and heaps of dirty refuse, proclaims that lead abounds, and that this is the district of mining adventurers.

$59\frac{1}{2}$ m. from *Castell Dyffryn*, where there is a solitary posthouse, a road to the I. strikes off to the *Devil's Bridge*, 3 m.

$61\frac{1}{2}$ m. *Pont Erwyd* (Inn: Cogerdan Arms). It is worth while to stop and look at the falls of the Rheidol, in a wild rocky gorge close to the road, but at a considerable depth below it.

About 50 yds. before reaching the river a rough cross-road strikes over the hill, and in about 1 m. falls into the old post-road to the Devil's Bridge at Ysphyty Cynfyn. For more than 3 m. from Pont Erwyd the road ascends, bare moor and hills surrounding it on every side; but on arriving at the summit of Cefn Brwyno a rapid descent

takes place all the way to Aberystwith. From here magnificent views are to be obtained over Cardigan Bay, particularly if the visitor happens to arrive at sunset.

67 m. on l. are the *Coginan* lead-mines, some of the most extensive in Cardiganshire, and which, as well as the Lisburne mines in Cwm Ystwith, are the most available and the best worth the inspection of the visitor. The appearance of the numerous large wheels, situated one above the other at different levels—the sombre grey hue of the jagged hills—the long, low sorting-houses, and the noise of the stamping-machines,—all combine to throw a mysterious effect over the scene.

At the village of Capel Bangor the road joins company with the Rheidol, which forms, for the rest of the way, an agreeable feature in the landscape, which it enlivens with its sinuous windings.

73 m. the village of *Llanbadarn Vawr* is passed, famous for the Ch. of St. Padarn or Paternus, a saint of great renown, who founded a monastery here in the time of the holy Dubritius. It is an ancient cruciform structure of about the 12th centy., chiefly remarkable for its venerable and massive tower, rising from the centre and supported by 4 massive piers. It also contains a number of pointed windows, which contribute much to the air of solidity and strength. There is a good doorway of the 12th centy. forming the entrance into the S. side of the nave. In the interior of the ch. are monuments to the families of Nanteos and Gogerddan. In the churchyard are some very ancient sculptured stone crosses.

74 m. *Aberystwith* (Rte. 28).

ROUTE 28.

FROM SHREWSBURY TO ABERYSTWITH, BY WELSHPOOL, NEWTOWN, AND MACHYNLLETH—RAIL.

The rly. to Welshpool traverses the line of the Rea Valley, which is considerably to the S. of the mail-road; and passes through Hanwood, where a branch diverges to Plealey, Pontesbury, and Minsterley, 9 m. from Shrewsbury. The main line continues through Yockleton, Westbury, and Middletown, passing through a much less interesting country than the T.R., which crosses the Severn at Welsh Bridge, and through “the auncient streate cal'd Franckarell many a day.” 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ m. rt., at the hamlet of *Shelton*, the road diverges to Oswestry. An old oak formerly stood here, from the branches of which Owain Glyndwr is said to have reconnoitred the English army.

3 m. l. *Onslow Hall* (J. Wingfield, Esq.), once the residence of Speaker Onslow. [5 $\frac{1}{4}$ m. a road on rt. runs to *Llanrhaidr-yn-Mochnant* (Rte. 21), passing 9 m. *Alberbury*, close to which is *Loton*, the beautiful seat of Sir Baldwin Leighton, Bart. The deer-park extends for a considerable distance up the slopes of the Breidden Hills, which for the whole way from Shrewsbury have been most conspicuous features in the landscape. At 11 m. the Severn is joined by the *Vyrnwy*, near which on rt. is a singular conical mound, called *Belan Bank*,

probably used to guard the passage of the river, which is crossed by a narrow bridge at 13 m. the village of Llandrinio. Soon afterwards the road joins the Oswestry and Welshpool road at Four Crosses (Rte. 27).]

6 m. l. Cardeston.

7 m. rt. *Rowton Castle*, the seat of H. Lyster, Esq. The road now begins to leave behind the pleasant flats of Shropshire, and to ascend the slopes of the Breidden Hills. 10½ m. rt. the village of *Woolaston*, near which there are a few early remains in the shape of tumuli and a moat. The *Breidden Hills*, the steep, wooded sides of which tower over the road, are a singular group, rising to the height of 1199 ft., though they appear more, in consequence of their isolation. The most precipitous peak is that of *Moel-y-golfa*, nearest Welshpool; it is divided from the other heights by deep ravines. The furthest or most northerly summit, overlooking the Severn, is crowned with *Rodney's Pillar*, erected to commemorate the victory obtained by that admiral over the French fleet in 1782. At the foot of the magnificent wood-covered escarpment stands the village of *Criggion*, with its picturesque little red sandstone ch.

On the hill which rises behind the Pillar there are traces of an ancient fortress, as also of a considerable encampment at *Cefn-y-Castell*, behind *Moel-y-golfa*, which last peak ought to be ascended. The view is very charming, particularly towards the N.W. and W., looking over Oswestry and the red hills of Llanymynach, the wooded, parkish country about Meifod and Llanfyllin, backed up by the noble ranges of the Berwyns. To the E. the eye glances over the rich champaign flats of the Severn, with the spires of Shrewsbury in the distance. Southwards the most prominent feature is the Long Mountain, with its monotonous outline.

Geologically considered, these mountains are interesting, as marking a line of eruption ranging from S.W. to N.E. They are "a mass of porphyritic and amygdaloidal greenstone, which, in its protrusion, has carried up included portions of slaty rocks, and has thrown off pebble beds and Upper Silurian (of the Long Mountain), to the S.E., and Lower Silurian to the N.W."—*Siluria*.

16 m. l., at junction of a road which runs past Leighton new ch. and Hall (J. Naylor, Esq.) (Rte. 15) to Montgomery, is the humble ch. of *Buttington*, which contains a curious font, resembling the capital of an Early English column.

18 m. WELSHPOOL JUNCT. (*Hotel: Royal Oak*) is described, together with Montgomery and the road to Newtown, in Rte. 27. From Newtown the road on the S. or rt. bank of the Severn is taken, passing the seats of *Dolerw* (W. Lutener, Esq.), and 3¼ m. *Glan Hafren* (G. Herbert, Esq.). 35½ m. rt. is the ch. of *Penstrowed*, and on the opposite side of the river *Aberhavesp Hall* (Gen. Proctor).

38½ m. MOAT LANE JUNCT., 1 m. beyond which the "sandy-bottomed" Severn is crossed at *Caersws*, a celebrated Roman station, placed in the centre of a valley into which 4 streams converge, the Severn, Tarannon, Ceryst, and Carno. It is said to have obtained its name from a great queen, named Swsan, "who waged war against a prince who reigned over a tribe to the S. of the Severn. One day, seeing the enemy on the Llandinam Hills, she marches her men over the river, and gives battle to the enemy. The prince, from the high ground, succeeds in repelling the Caersws soldiers; and the spirited amazon, seeing a defeat inevitable, rides up and requests to be put to death, and to be buried with her

brave men. The prince replies, 'No! thou art too brave to die at our hands; I grant thee a pardon.'" The camp, through which the mail-road runs, covers an area of about 4 acres, and the rampart in many places rises several ft. above the level of the ground. Many remains have been dug out—such as querns, bricks, Samian ware, &c.; the site of a Roman villa was also excavated. The surface is to a considerable extent covered with modern farm-buildings, which, like many of the houses in the village, were built of the ancient walls, and still bear the marks of the chisels of the Roman masons. The shape of the camp is rectangular, intersected by lanes at right angles, indicating the situation of the principal streets. 4 Roman roads are still to be traced, springing from the common centre. These were the *Via Devana*, or *Sarn Swsan*, running N.E. to *Mediolanum* (*Mathrafal*, near *Meifod*); W. to *Maglona* (*Machynlleth*); S. to *Magos* (*Caerfagu*, near *Llandrindod*); and E. to *Caerflos*, near *Montgomery*.

Caersws appears to have been an important place subsequent to the Roman era, as *Leland* mentions of it, "In *Arustli* there is no pretty town, nor any market but *Llanidloes*; yet at poor *Caersws* hath been both a market and borough privilege."

Caersws is a stat. on the *Machynlleth* branch of rly.

From hence the line is carried up the valley of the *Carno*, a pretty stream, with well-wooded banks, though offering no special beauties to detain the tourist. The rly. and the road keep company for a considerable distance.

41½ m. *Pontdolgoch* Stat., and

45½ m. *Carno* Stat., a high and rather exposed village, where the *Knights of Jerusalem* are said to have possessed a religious house. Close to the ch.yard is the entrenchment of *Caer-y-Noddfa*, the "fortress of re-
[*N. Wales.*]

fuge." A great battle is said to have been fought on the mountains near *Carno*, in 949, between N. and S. Wallians; but it appears doubtful whether the event took place here, or on the mountain of *Carno*, overlooking the *Vale of Crickhowell*, in *Breconshire*. From *Carno* the rly. runs through a wild country, with heavy gradients, to

51¼ *Llanbrynmair* Stat.

55¼ *CEMMAES ROAD JUNCT.* (Rte. 23), and

61 m. *Machynlleth* Stat.

By road from *Carno* the traveller ascends a bleak table-land, on the other side of which is

3½ m. *Talerddig*, in the glen of the *Ial*. [From thence there is a shorter, but much wilder, road to *Machynlleth*, between 13 and 14 m.] This valley affords some very pleasing scenery, particularly at one spot, where there is a natural arch in the rock; also a good waterfall, called *Nant Ysgolion*. 6 m. near the confluence of the *Ial*, the *Twymyn*, and a 3rd brook which flows from the N., is the *Wynnstay Arms*, one of the most comfortable inns in the district, and invaluable headquarters for the angler or the artist. *Mr. Lloyd*, the landlord, is one of 3 brothers who have earned an enviable reputation amongst Welsh innkeepers, his *confrères* being respectively the landlords of the *Wynnstay Arms* at *Machynlleth*, and the *Wynnstay Arms* at *Oswestry*.

This is a good point from whence to visit the waterfalls at the head of the *Twymyn*, the uppermost of which, *Ffrwdd Fawr*, is very fine after much rain, having a perpendicular descent of 130 ft. They are about 6 m. from the *Wynnstay Arms* (near the hamlet of *Pennant*), and 1 m. from the *Machynlleth* and *Llanidloes* road. The parish of *Llanbrynmair* (the ch. of which is 1½ m. S. of the inn) is very extensive, and contains, amongst

the bleak hills to the N.E. of the Plinlymmon range, several lead-mines. 11 m. the valley of the Twymyn joins that of the Dyfi. A road on rt. goes to Cemmaes and Mallwyd, 7 m.

13½ m. at Abergwedol the short road to Talerddig through Llanbrynmair runs in. [On the opposite bank of the river is the ch. of *Llanwrin*, which is no less than 163 ft. in length. A little higher up the stream is the farm-house of *Mathafarn*, the former residence of Davydd Llwydd, a celebrated seer and bard in the 15th cent. "Henry VII., when Earl of Richmond, passed the night here in his route from Milford to Bosworth."]]

15½ m. rt. *Penegoes*, the birthplace of Wilson the painter, who lies buried in the ch. of Mold.

17 m. *Machynlleth* (*Hotels*: Herbert Arms and Unicorn, comfortable is an unusually good specimen of a Welsh town. Cleanly, well built, and situated in the centre of a charming neighbourhood, it has always attracted a large number of tourists, most of them en route from Aberystwith, from which it is distant 18 m. It lays claim to antiquity, being generally supposed to have been the Maglona of the Romans, where a lieutenant was stationed in the reign of Honorius; at all events, if there was not a station here, there was one at Pennal, 4 m. on the Aberdovey road. In Maengwyn-st. is a spacious arched porch, the sole remains of an ancient building known as the Parliament House; where, in 1402, Owain Glyndwr convoked a National Assembly, by whom the ceremony of coronation was performed, and Owain acknowledged as Prince of Wales. "At this meeting Sir David Gam, a Breconshire gentleman, and Owain's brother-in-law, was present, under the pretence of uniting in its object, but really

with very different views. He had plotted the death of his countryman and prince; but the scheme was discovered when on the point of being executed. David was seized and imprisoned, and would instantly have met with condign punishment, had it not been for the intercession of some of Owain's best friends and partisans."—*T. O. M.*

There is an old building near the Wynnstay Arms, where Charles I. is reported to have slept on his way to Chester. The ch. is plain and modern.

Flannel-making is the great employment of the town and neighbourhood, though slate-quarries and some lead-mines, the produce of which is shipped at Derwenlas, on the Dyfi, contribute to its prosperity. Machynlleth stands high as a fishing station, the Dyfi, between Cemmaes and the town, yielding some fine sport, which is carefully looked after by the Dyfi Angling Association. Llyn Bugeilyn, on the Llanidloes road, 9 m. distant, is also a likely spot, as well as Llyn Penrhaiadr, 6 m., which possesses the additional attraction of magnificent scenery. Tickets for the fishing are provided by Mr. Lloyd, landlord of the Wynnstay Arms.

The latter lake can best be visited from Machynlleth, either by taking the Aberystwith road to Pont Llyfnant, and then following the glen up to its head, or by a much shorter route across the country due S. The *Llyfnant*, which here divides N. and S. Wales, rises in Llyn Penrhaiadr, and soon forms a very fine waterfall at Pistyll-y-Llyn, dashing over the naked rocks from a great height. By the side of the precipice is a narrow winding path, which may be followed to the lake, which is situated on very high ground to the N.W. of Plinlymmon. The whole of this region is associated with Owain Glyndwr and his chosen band, who betook themselves into the fastnesses of the

surrounding mountains. About 1 m. to the E. of the lake is Bwlch Hyddgenn, a spot where the Flemings were routed by him with considerable slaughter.

Plas Machynlleth is the residence of Earl Vane, and adjoining the town is *Greenfields* (Lady Edwards).

Rail to Shrewsbury, 61 m.; Aberystwith, 20; and Pwllheli.

Distances. — Dolgelley, 16 m.; Aberdovey, 10; Pennal, 4; Mallwyd, 12; Cemmaes, 7; Dinas Mowddwy, 14; Wynnstay Arms, 11; Llanidloes, 19; Llyn Bugeilyn, 9; Llyn Penrhaiadr, 6; Newtown, 30; Oswestry, 48; Tal-y-llyn, 10.

The rly. to Aberystwith runs by the S. bank of the Dyfi, which soon expands into an estuary. It passes *Derwenlas*, a small shipping-port for slates and lead-ore, and

Pont Llyfnant, a little beyond which a road on l. runs up the stream to the waterfall and Llyn Pen Rhaiadr, about 6 m. *Glandyfi Castle* is the seat of E. Jeffreys, Esq., magnificently situated on a range of rock overlooking the Dyfi and the sea. Towards Machynlleth, Cader Idris and the Arans are fine objects in the landscape.

65½ m. GLANDYFI JUNCT., where the main line for North Wales is given off (Rte. 25). The line now skirts the coast to

70½ m. *Ynyslas* Stat., where there is a ferry to Aberdovey.

73½ m. *Borth* Stat. There is a very good hotel here (Cambrian), and it is a quiet resting-place for those who prefer tranquillity to the more frequented watering-places. Borth itself is a mere hamlet, with an "ancient and fishlike smell."

75½ m. *Llanvihangel* Stat.

77 m. *Bow Street* Stat., just above which there is a large encampment at Yr Hen Gear.

81½ m. *Aberystwith* Stat.

The road from Machynlleth passes Glandyfi Castle, and

6 m. *Eglwysfach*. 8 m. it then

skirts the demesne of Park Lodge, and passes through the hamlet of Tre'r Ddol, to the rt. of which extends the flat alluvial surface of the partially drained Ynys Mochno.

¾ m. rt. is the ch. of Llanfynydd. 69½ m. on rising ground l. is *Tre Taliesin*, supposed on good authority to have been the burial-place of the bard. The cairn, in the centre of which is the cistvaen, or grave, is about 135 ft. in circumference. 2 or 3 m. further up the mountain are some Druidical circles, also a British fortress at Moel-y-gaer, 11 m. The river Lery is crossed at the hamlet of Talybont, 13 m. 1 m. rt. is the beautifully situated ch. of Llanvihangel gen'eu'r glyn, at the foot of a hill crowned by an entrenchment. At Rhyd-y-pennau the road from Aberdovey through Borth falls in. Another large encampment is to be found at Yr Hen Gear, on a hill overlooking 14½ Bow-str. 5 m. the little river Clarach is crossed, leaving on l. *Gogerddan*, the ancient seat of the Pryse family; and rt., embosomed in woods, *Cwm Cynfelin*, the mansion of the late Matthew Williams, Esq.

18 m. *Aberystwith* (*Hotels*: Queen's Hotel, first class and very convenient for invalids; Bellevue, very good; Gogerddan Arms, good; Talbot), very prettily situated on the seashore, between the hills at the mouth of the Rheidol, which, after passing under a bridge of 5 arches, here unites itself with the Ystwith in an artificial channel, both together falling into the Bay of Cardigan. The union of the 2 rivers was effected in order (by strengthening the current and increasing the volume of water) to scour out the harbour. It is a sort of Welsh Brighton, resorted to in the summer-time for sea-bathing, and abounds in lodging-houses, of which the best are to be found on the Terrace, a crescent facing the sea and following the curve of the beach. In front of it

are the bathing-machines, and hot salt-water baths are provided near at hand and in the town. From the S. end of the Terrace an elegant iron promenade pier was carried out, but so insecurely that it was useless for shipping, and a portion of it was swept away by a winter's storm. The beach shelves down very rapidly; and as the tide comes in at times with great force, bathers should be cautious not to advance too far, lest they should be caught in the draught: at such times it is dangerous to attempt to swim. The beach is remarkable for the quantity of pebbles to be found on it—such as carnelians, onyx, &c.; the searching for which is often the principal occupation of visitors, who, particularly after a storm, wander up and down with bent backs and downcast eyes. The harbour having become obstructed by the formation of a bar at its mouth, a new pier has been constructed, projecting on one side 300 and on the other 100 yds. into the sea. On a lofty rock overlooking the sea stand the ruins of the castle, originally founded by Gilbert de Strongbow, a greedy and unscrupulous Norman baron, who received a licence from his master, Henry I., founded on the charter of "the strong hand," to seize as much as he could of the lands of the Welsh chieftain Cadwgan ap Bled-dyn; and the result was, that, by the aid of a superior force, he dispossessed him of all Cardiganshire, and secured it to himself by building strong castles. The existing remains, consisting of a gateway and fragments of towers and walls, are probably of the time of Edward I. Mr. Bushel, the fortunate proprietor of the neighbouring lead and silver mines, established here a mint, with permission of Charles I., to pay his workmen. He afterwards showed his gratitude by lending the king 40,000*l.*, by clothing the whole of his army, and by raising, at his

own expense, a regiment among his miners. The pieces thus coined are marked with the Prince of Wales's Feathers, and are common in the cabinets of collectors. The castle was besieged by the Parliamentarians during the civil war, and was bombarded by Cromwell from the neighbouring height of Pendinas—such, at least, is the local tradition. From the time of its capture its present decay may be dated. The hill and the ruins are now rendered accessible by agreeable public walks. Adjoining the castle are the public rooms and the church, of which all that can be said is, that it offers suitable accommodation. There is another ch. of more recent construction in Gray's Inn Lane. Below the castle, at the end of the Terrace, is the Castle House, a building of fantastic design, erected by Nash for the late Sir Uvedale Price, Bart. It is now the University of Wales, but is not completed. In the environs of the town, on the banks of the Rheidol, is Plas-crug, a ruined castellated house, said to have been the residence of Owain Glyndwr; and near it is a chalybeate spring, whose waters are said to resemble in their properties those of Tonbridge Wells.

Rlys. to North Wales, Shrewsbury, and South Wales.

Distances.—Llanidloes, 28 m.; Newtown, 41; Welshpool, 54; London, 226; Liverpool, 115; Rhayader, 33; Kington, 60; Hereford, 80; Devil's Bridge, 12; Machynlleth, 18; Oswestry, 66; Ruabon, 68; Aberayron, 16; Lampeter, 29; Caermarthen, 51; Cardigan, 23; Aberdovey, 11.

[A very beautiful excursion can be made to the Devil's Bridge, 12 m., and Hafod, if time permit. The road is extremely steep and hilly, occasionally affording exquisite peeps into the valley of Rheidol. 3 m. rt. is Nanteos, the seat of Col. Powell. The Hafod Arms (large

and comfortable) is finely situated, overlooking from a height of 300 ft. the leafy glen of the Rheidol, while immediately below the house runs the narrower gorge of the Mynach, which here joins the Rheidol, filling the air with the roar of its waters. The Devil's Bridge is not more than 30 yds. from the house on the road to Rhayader, and might easily be passed without exciting attention, so completely is the narrow gorge which it spans choked up by trees and shrubs. It consists, properly speaking, of 2 bridges—a lower one, now a mere curve of rude masonry, built, it is said, in the 11th or 12th cent., by the monks of Strata Florida Abbey, whence comes its Welsh name; and a more modern arch immediately over it, of about 30 ft. span, built in 1753, at a height of 120 ft. above the torrent, which is barely perceived among trees and rocks, working its way through the dark abyss below. There is a similar double bridge on the Pass of St. Gothard among the Alps; the modern and upper arch having been made, as is the case here also, to avoid the inconvenient descent to the lower and older one, which in both instances, from the boldness of its construction, has been attributed by the wondering peasantry to the architecture of the devil, the Satanic Pontifex Maximus.

The falls of the Mynach are in the grounds of the Hotel Company, who charge 1s. for each visitor, which frees him as often as he likes to go. The falls of the Rheidol may be visited with more difficulty by another path.

The best way to see the bridge is to cross it, and, taking a path to the rt., descend to the water's edge. Immediately under the bridge the gorge is reduced to a mere crack in the slate rock, over which, to all appearance, a man might stride. The torrent in descending towards

it rushes and boils among the hard rocks—

"The fall of waters, rapid as the light,
The flashing mass foams, shaking the
abyss"—

and, by the aid of the small stones which it whirls along with it, has scooped out the sides into grooves, giving to the bed of the stream the appearance of a succession of huge caldrons. The original rent must have been formed by some great convulsion of nature, since no power of water, in the present state of the globe, is capable of effecting it.

Most engravings of this bridge represent in one and the same view the waterfalls also; but in this the licence taken by the painter is as great as that allowed to poets, since from no point accessible at present can the bridge be seen at the same time as the falls, owing to a bend in the ravine. The falls may be seen by taking another pathway on the l. of the high road, about 30 yds. beyond the bridge, which leads by a rude staircase cut in the splintery rock through the underwood to a promontory projecting between the Rheidol and Mynach, just above their junction; ascend by the path in front of the hotel, which commands beautiful views of the falls individually. In times of flood, when the channel is full, the stream presents a magnificent spectacle, descending amidst rocks and rich foliage in a succession of leaps, respectively 18, 60, 20, and 110 ft. high. The 4th descent is to the fall of the Rheidol, opposite the hotel, in which the cataract is 70 ft. in height; the roar of waters, together with the narrowness of the ravine, the exquisite foliage on all sides, and the towering mountains which close it in, all combine to make a rare picture. The ravine and stream at the foot are crossed by an iron suspension bridge.

On the hill opposite the bridge is

an ancient fortification called Castell fan Gwraech.

About $1\frac{3}{4}$ m. on the Rhayader road is the little ch. of *Ysppyty Cynfyn* (from its name formerly an hospitium), in the churchyard of which are 3 Druidical stones; and about $\frac{1}{2}$ m. on the l., in a deep and gloomy defile, is the *Parson's Bridge*, which the tourist should not neglect to visit, from its very wild and picturesque beauty. A hand-rail is thrown from rock to rock and secured by chains, while the Rhaidol foams underneath, confined between two projecting rocks. From the Parson's Bridge the ravine may be ascended on the opposite side, and the path followed to Pont Erwyd.]

[The Devil's Bridge is the most convenient point from which to make an excursion to Hafod, Strata Florida Abbey, and Tregaron. The visitor who only wishes to go as far as Hafod should arrange to return to Aberystwith by the new road along the Ystwith to Llanavan. For rather more than 3 m. the old Rhayader road is followed, through the *Arch* built by the late Col. Johnes to commemorate the jubilee year of the reign of George III. From hence a rapid descent for a mile will bring the tourist to *Hafod*, the princely estate of W. Chambers, Esq., where the beauties of nature and art have been mingled in a rarely happy manner. Like many large estates and show-places, Hafod has known many vicissitudes and changed owners several times. The property, originally a wild and barren glen, came into the hands of a Mr. Paynter, and subsequently, in 1783, of Col. Johnes, who, at once seeing the improvements of which it was susceptible, from that time devoted the remainder of his life and fortune to that object. The bleak hills were planted with the almost incredible number of 3,000,000 of

trees, besides many acres that were sown with acorns; and with what success the densely-wooded hills and valleys all round attest. A large Gothic mansion in the bad taste of the time was erected by Mr. Baldwin, of Bath, in which Col. Johnes accumulated valuable treasures of art and literature, including paintings and a library unique for its collection of MSS., among which were illuminated MSS. of Froissart. In addition to these rarities, he printed at his private press translations of Froissart and Monstrelet's Chronicles. In 1807 the whole house, with nearly all that it contained, was burnt to the ground, at a loss to the owner of 70,000*l.* Nothing daunted by this calamity, he set himself to repair the damage, had his house rebuilt by Nash, a great portion of whose work still exists, and made a fresh collection of books and MSS. Col. Johnes, however, died in 1816, in straitened circumstances, after which, the estate, having been taken into Chancery, fell into sad decay until 1841, when the Duke of Newcastle bought it for 62,000*l.* In 1845 it was resold to H. Hoghton, Esq., for 94,000*l.*, under whose auspices the present improvements, including the bell-tower, erected in the Italian style by Mr. Salvin, were carried out. The contrast between the old house of Nash, with its puerility of design, and the Italian roofs and terraces of the new portion, is very striking and almost ludicrous; but when the whole is finished, after the designs of Mr. Salvin, Hafod will yield to few places in the kingdom for beauty and extent. The Ystwith flows through the grounds, amidst constantly varying scenes, and numerous tributary brooks rush down the hill-sides in cascades of every height, many of them unfortunately hidden from view by the luxuriant growth of trees; a judicious thinning, advantageous alike to the timber and the

landscape, is constantly being carried on by the present owner. The principal object of attraction in the grounds is the Piran fall, which, although of no great magnitude, is very romantic, the visitor being made to approach it through a tunnel in the rock; there are also several other very pretty falls in the grounds. The ch., called in Welsh *Eglwys Newydd*, is charmingly placed on the hill-side, not far from the entrance lodge. It contains one of Chantrey's finest sculptures, a most exquisite monument to the memory of Miss Johnes, in white marble, representing the parents standing at the death-bed of the daughter.

There is a good painted window in the S.W. transept, which was brought to this country from Holland.

On a commanding wooded knoll, not far from the ch., is an obelisk erected by Mr. Johnes to the memory of the Duke of Bedford.

The visitor will do well to leave Hafod by the southern entrance, near which the Ystwith is crossed at the picturesque little hamlet of Pont-rhyd-y-groes.]

On the opposite ascent are the famous *Lisburne* lead-mines, employing a large number of people. Two of the most important veins of ore in Cardiganshire, the Fronfraith and the Log-y-las, are worked here, producing in 1857 about 3000 tons of lead. The veins, from 4 to 6 ft. in thickness, run E. and W., sending out thinner veins from the main lodes, the traces of which are constantly to be found in the beds of the brooks and ravines on the sides of the hill. Unless the visitor be a geologist, an inspection of the interior of a lead-mine is scarcely worth the trouble, as at the very outset a complete mining dress has to be donned, and a long distance of wet dreary

[*N. Wales.*]

passages to be traversed before he arrives at the scene of operations. Having descended a fatiguing number of steps by ladders, crept into the hole where the miners are at work, and become accustomed to the vapours of powder-smoke, he will find that the lode does not possess much of the glittering appearance that a specimen of lead-ore in a cabinet presents.

[From the *Lisburne* mines the tourist who does not wish to proceed to *Strata Florida* can return to *Aberystwith* through *Llanafan*. A new private road, open to visitors, has been formed by the mine-owners on the southern bank of the river, which joins the old *Aberystwith* road at *Pont Llanafan*.

Many fine bits of river-scenery occur, particularly at *Craig Columenod*, or the Doves' Rock, a very high perpendicular rock, appearing to stand out in the very course of the stream. At *Pont Llanafan* the river is crossed by a road which leads on the l. to *Ystrad Meirig* and *Tregaron*. Some romantic scenery and a waterfall are to be found in a dingle which accompanies this road a little to the W.

From *Llanafan*, the ch. of which contains an ancient silver Communion-dish, presented by the Earls of *Lisburne*, a ride of 10 m. will bring the traveller to *Aberystwith*, passing on the rt. bank *Crosswood* (Welsh, *Trawscoed*), the beautiful park of the Earl of *Lisburne*, the principal landowner of the district. On the opposite side of the river is *Birchgrove* (Hon. W. Vaughan).

2 m. further, opposite *Llidiaw* (J. Parry, Esq.), the road quits the valley of the *Ystwith*, and ascends high ground to *Aberystwith*, passing on rt. *Nanteos*, the seat of Col. Powell.]

INDEX.

ABER.	BATTLE.	BRAINT.
A.		
<p>Aber, 47; castle, 47 Aber Cowarch waterfall, 142 Aberdaron, 106 Aberdovey, 153 Abererch, 143 Aber-fawr waterfall, 47 Aberfraw, 59 Abergele, 42 — to Denbigh, 48 Aberglaslyn, Pont, 123 Abergwedol, 170 Abergwynolwyn stat., 151 Abermaw, 149 Abermule, 163 Abersoch, 107 Aberystwith, 171; new pier, 172; ruins of castle, 172; former mint, 172; conveyances and distances, 172; excursion to Devil's Bridge, 172 Acrefair stat. and ironworks, 17 Afon ddu, waterfall of the, 86; source of the river, 86 — Lloer, 90 — Llweh, river, 113 — Porthlwyd, waterfall of the, 86 — Prysor, 134 — Tarenig, river, 166 Afonlâs, river, 118 Afonwen junet, 101 Agricola, his sudden appearance in Britain, 47; place of his landing, 58 Air, Point of, lighthouse, 40 Alaw, river, 60 Alberbury, 160, 167 Aled, river, 42, 48, 81, 96 Alwen, river, 24, 42, 96 Alyn, river, 15, 73, 75, 76, 78 Amllwch, 72; distances, 72; steamer, 72 Amphitheatre, British, 48 Anglesea column, 57 Antiquities of North Wales, xix Aqueduct across the ravine of the Dee, 17 Aran, river, 140</p>	<p>Aran Benllyn, 26, 142 — Mowddwy, 26, 142 Ardudwy, graves of the men of, tradition concerning, 128 —, mountains of, 144; geology of the district, 144 Arenig, mountain, 26 — Vach, 130 — Vawr, 130 Arthur's Quoit, 71, 148 Artro, river, 146, 147 Asaph, St., 82; see founded by Kentigern, 82; vicissitudes of the town, 82; its bishops, 82; cathedral, 82; Deanery and Palace, 83; distances, 83; excursions, 83 —, well of, 41 Atcham, 8</p> <p>B.</p> <p>Bagillt stat., 36 Bailey Hill, storming of, 74 Bala, 25; antiquities at, 25; Methodism and pretty girls, 25; lake of, 25; geology of the district, 26; distances and conveyances, 26 Bangor, 51; cathedral, 52; library, 52; distances, 53; conveyances, 53 — to Holyhead, 51 — to Pwllheli, 96 — Iscoed, site of ancient monastery, 13 Binw, river, 157 Bardsey Island, 106; ruins of its abbey, 107 Barmouth, 149; distances, 149 — Junet, 150 Baron Hill, 66 Baschurch stat., 9 Basingwerk abbey, ruins of, 37 Battle of Carno, 169 — the Ceirlog, 9 — Coed Ewloe, 34 — Cokeshill, 36 — Llandegai, 94 — Mold, 74 — Morfa Rhuddlan, 85</p>	<p>Battle of Plas Rhiwaedog, 130 — Shrewsbury, 2 Butlefield, 2 Beaumaris, 64; castle, 65; church, 66; Baron Hill, 66; conveyances, 66; distances, 66 Beavers, glen of, 92 Bechan, river, 157 Bedd, or grave, xix — Porius, 134 Beddau-gwyr-Ardudwy, 128 Beddgelert, 122; story of Llewelyn and his hound, 122; excursions, distances, 122; ascent of Snowdon from, 114 Belan, 102 — Bank, 167 Berriew, 163 Berth Hill, ancient fortifications on, 9 Berwyn stat., 22 Berwyns, mountains, 131; geology of, 131 Bethesda, 94 Bettisfield, 17 Bettws Abergele, 48 — Cedewen, 164 — y-coed, 88 — to Corwen, 95 — Garmon, 120 — Gwerful Goch, 24 Benno, St., legend of, 38, 103; well of, 103 Birds, sea, vast numbers of, at the North and South Stacks, 61; mode of taking their eggs, 64 Blaen Hafren, 154 Bodedern, 60 Bodelwyddan, 84 Bodfari, 159 Bodfari, 76 Bodowyr, cromlech at, 58 Bodorgan, 59 Boduan, 105 Bodvel Hall, 105 Borth, 171 Bow Street stat., 151 Braich-y-dinas, British post of, 46 Braich Goch, 141 Braint, valley of the, 58</p>

BREIDDEN.

Breidden Hills, 167, 168
 Brein-gwyn, 58
 Bridges: suspension, at Conway, 43; tubular, at Conway, 43; suspension, at Menai Straits, 54; tubular, at Menai Straits, 55; Devil's, near Aberystwith, 172; Parson's, 174
 Britannia tubular bridge, 55
 Bronwen, tomb of, 61
 Broughton, 73
 Brown, Capability, his garden at Powis Castle, 161
 Bryn Cader Fawr, 147
 Brynkinalt, 10
 Bryn kir, 101
 Buckley Mountain, 34
 Bull Bay, 72
 Bushel, Mr., his mint at Aberystwith, 172; raises a regiment for Charles I., 172
 Butler, Lady Eleanor, her retreat at Llangollen, 19
 Buttington, 168
 Bwlch-y-ddeulaen, pass of, 47, 86
 — Drws Ardudwy, 148
 — yr-Eifi, pass of, 103
 — y-fedwen, 158
 — y-groes, 142
 — Hyddgenn, 171
 — y-Maen, 112, 114
 — Oerdrws, 141
 — y-Tyddiad, 147
 Bwrdd Arthur, 48, 69

C.

Cader Idris, 135; ascent of, 138; view from the summit, 139; geology of, 139; botany, 140
 Cadfan, St., stone called after, 153
 Caer, 162
 — Crwyni, 24
 — Digol, 162
 — Drewyn, British post, 23
 — Estyn, British post, 73
 — Gai, 25, 26
 — Gronw, 25
 Caergwrle, 73; Roman remains at, 73
 Caerhun, 85
 Caer-leh, 58
 Caernarvon, 97; history, 97; castle, 97; Eagle Tower, 98; walls and gates, 99; public buildings, 99; view from Twt Hill, 99; site of Segontium, 100; distances and conveyances, 100
 — to Pwllheli, 102

CATHEDRALS.

Caernarvon to Capel Curig, 108
 — to Tanybwlech, 120
 Caer-y-Noddfa, 169
 — Ogyrfan, British post of, 156
 — Seiont, 97
 Caersws, Roman station, 168; legend of Queen Swsan, 168; antiquities, 169; Roman roads from, 169
 Caerwys, cradle of the Eisteddfoddiau, 75
 Caernwch, 138
 Cain, river, 134, 159
 Calettwr, 24; river, 131
 Camlan river, 134, 135
 Camps, ancient, xxi, 12, 35, 42, 60, 69, 106, 146, 147, 149, 152, 155, 157, 158, 160, 161, 163, 164, 171
 Cann Office, 157
 Capel Arthog, 150
 — Bangor, 167
 — Curig, 89; distances, 90; ascent of Snowdon from, 115
 — Garmon, 95
 — Llochwyd, 63
 — Trillo, 51
 Caractacus, betrayal of, 96
 Cardeston, 168
 Carneddau Davydd and Llewelyn, 47, 90
 Carn Boduan, 105
 — Fadryn, 105
 Carno, river, 168, 169
 —, village, 169
 —, battle of, 169
 Carreg-y-Llam, 104
 Carrog stat., 23
 Caseg, river, 94
 Castell-y-Bere, remains of, 151
 — Brogyntyn, 156
 — Caer Einion, 157, 162
 — Caer Seion, British town of, 46
 — Cawr, 42
 — Cidwm, 120
 — Coch, 161; site of, 95
 — Crogen, 10
 — Dinas Bran, 20
 — Dyffryn, 166
 — Edris, semicircular dyke at, 58
 — Gronw, British fortress of, 130
 — fan Gwrach, 174
 — Odo, 106
 — Prysor, 134
 — Tomen-y-Mur, 133
 Cathedrals —
 Asaph, St., 82
 Bangor, 52
 Chester, 30

CONOVIVM.

Cefn caves, 83
 — stat., 11
 — y-bedd, 73
 — Carnedd, 165
 — y-Castell, 168
 — Crwyni, 24
 — Ogo cavern, 42
 Cefni, vale and river, 70
 Cegid, river, 53
 Ceilwart, river, 149
 Ceiriog, river, 9; battle on its banks, 9
 Cemmaes, 72, 143, 158
 — Road junct., 169
 Cernioge, 96
 Cerreg-ceinwen, 60
 Cerrig-y-druidion, 81, 96
 Ceryst river, 141, 168
 Ceunant Mawr waterfall, 113
 Charles I. at Shrewsbury, 6; at Denbigh, 79; at Machynlleth, 170
 Chester, history, 27; form of the city, 28; walls, 28; Phoenix Tower, 28; Water Tower, 28; Rows, 29; ancient houses, 29; cathedral, 30; churches, 31; castle, 31; bridge, 32; Roodee, 32; railways and distances, 32
 — to Bangor, 27
 — to Ruthin, 73
 Chirk stat., 10; castle, 10; village, 11
 Churler, valley of the, 75
 Chwilog, 101
 Cilcen, or Cilcain, 76
 Circles, Druidical, 40, 46, 54, 75, 77, 146, 157, 171
 Clarach, river, 171
 Clogwyn d'er Arddu, 112, 115
 Clun forest, 164
 Clwyd, river, 42, 76, 77, 78, 79, 81
 Clwydian hills, 75, 79
 Clynnog, 102; its ancient church, 102; former monastery, 103; legend of St. Beuno, 103; cromlech, 103
 Clywedog, river, 79, 155, 165
 Coal measures of North Wales, xi; number of collieries and their produce, xvii
 Coed Ewloe, battle of, 34
 — Talwn ironworks, 73
 Coetmore, 94
 Coginau lead-mines, 167
 Coleshill, battle of, 36
 Collieries, 34, 74
 Colwyn, 42; valley of the, 114
 Commerce of North Wales, xvii
 Conovium, Roman station, 85

CONWAY.

Conway, 43; suspension and tubular bridges, 43; castle, 44; church, 45; neighbourhood, 45; conveyances, 45; distances, 45
 — to Bangor, 85
 — to Llandudno, 49
 — river, 86, 87, 95, 129
 — —, falls of, 86
 — Vale of, 87
 Cop 'ar 'leni, tumulus, 40
 Copper-works of North Wales, xvii; mines, 50, 71, 135, 150, 156
 Corris, river, 140
 —, slate-quarries of the, 140
 Corsygedol, 148
 Corwen, 23; relics of Owain Glyndwr at, 23; distances, 23; railway, 23
 — to Rhyl, 77
 Cowarch, river, 142
 Craig Aderyn, 151
 — Colummenod, 175
 — y-dinas, 57, 102
 — llyn Dyfi, 142
 — y-llam, 140
 — y-Saeth, 147
 Creuddyn, 43
 Cricceith, 143
 Criggion, 168
 Cromlechs, xix, 50, 57, 58, 60, 69, 70, 73, 85, 95, 103, 106, 126, 148
 Crown Inn, 78
 Cwm Bochlwyd, 92
 — Brwynog, 112, 113
 — Bychan, 146, 147
 — Clogwyn, 112, 114; its lakes, 115
 — Glas, 110, 112
 — Gralanog, 93
 — Llan, 114, 119
 Cynfael, river, 128, 133
 Cynicht, 119, 124
 Cynmer Abbey, 136
 Cynwydd, 24
 Cyrn-y-brain, 79

D.

Dafydd, Carnedd, 47, 90
 Dee, valley of, 11, 24
 — river, 13, 17, 19, 24, 78, 130
 — viaduct, 11, 17
 Denbigh, 79; castle, 79; churches and public buildings, 80; distances, 81; excursions, 81
 Deneio, 105
 Derwen, 77
 Derwenlas, 171

EGLWYSFACH.

Devil's Bridge and waterfalls, 172, 173
 Diflas, river, 154
 Diganwy, Castle, 50
 Dinas, 97
 — Ddinlle, 102
 — Dinoethni, British post, 102
 — Dinorwig, British post, 53, 108
 — Emrys, 119
 — Mawr, 54
 — Mowddwy, 141
 Dinorwig, slate-quarries of, 109
 Dodleston, 16
 Dolbadarn, 108; round tower of, 108
 Dolbenmaen, 126
 Dolforwyn castle, 164
 Dolgarrog, 86
 Dolgelley, 136; Owain Glyndwr's parliament at, 137; manufacture, 137; conveyances and distances, 137; excursions, 137, 138
 — to Dinas Mowddwy, 141
 — to Llanidloes, 150
 Dolwrheiddiog, 146
 Dolwyddelan, village and castle, 88, 89
 Dovey, river, 154
 Downing, 39
 Druid Inn, 24, 96
 Drws-y-coed, 101
 Drws-yr-Ymlid, 146
 Drwyndwn, Iorwerth, residence of, 89
 Dulas, river, 70, 166
 Dulyn, river, 86
 Dwirdwy, river, 25, 26
 Dwyfach, river, 143
 Dwyflawr, river, 143
 Dwygyfylchi, 46
 Dwyryd, river, 128, 133
 Dyffryn, 148
 Dyfi, river, 141, 142, 143, 153, 158, 166, 171
 Dyserth, castle of, 40
 Dysyuni, river, 151, 152

E.

Eaton Hall, 32
 Eden, river, 134, 148
 Edeyrn, 105
 Edeyrnion, vale of, 24
 Edward I., reputed residence of, 101; at Nevin, 105; in the Snowdon district, 117
 Edward II., reputed birth-place of, 97
 Elenecthyd, 77
 Eglwysfach, 171

GEOLOGY.

Eglwys Rhos, 51
 — Vair, 106
 Eglwyseg rocks, 18
 Egryn Abbey, 149
 Eiarth, river, 131
 Eifi, yr, 103
 Einion, river, 157
 Eira, river, 158
 Eisteddfoddian, festivals of bards and minstrels, cradle of, 75; at Denbigh, 80
 Elian, well of, 42
 Eliseg, pillar of, 21
 Ellesmere, 16
 — canal, 9; aqueduct of the, 9
 Elwy, river, 42, 48, 82, 83
 Epilepsy, cause of, 78
 Erbistock, 13
 Ewloe castle, ruins of, 34
 Eyarth, 77

F.

Fenn's Moss, 17
 Fenn's Bank stat., 17
 Ffestiniog, quarries of, 127; vale and town of, 128
 Ffynnon Asaph, 41
 Ffynnonfair, holy well of, 83
 Ffynnon-lleinir, 75
 Ffynnon-y-Lloer, 90
 Ffynnon Llwgwy, 90
 Fitzmaurice, Hon. T., eccentricity of, 81
 Flint, 35; castle, 35; conveyances, 36; distances, 36
 Foel, British fortress, 102
 Fonllef-hir, 146
 Forden, 163
 Forest, Dr., burned, 24
 Fors Noddyn, 95
 Four Crosses, 76, 160
 Foxes' Path, 138
 Frankton, 16
 Fraw, river, 59

G.

Gaerfawr, 161
 Gaerwen, 58, 59, 102
 — junct. to Amlwch, 70
 Gam, Sir David, plots the death of Owain Glyndwr, 170
 Gardden, 13, 157
 Garreg, mountain, 40
 Garth, 161
 Garthbiblo, 158
 Gelrw, river, 96
 Gelert, story of the hound, 122
 Gelvn, river, 130
 Geology of North Wales, xi

GEOLOGIST.

Geologist, points of interest for the, xxviii
 George, St., 84
 Glandyfi junct., 154, 171
 Glaslyn, lake, 112, 116, 154.
 —, river, 118, 119, 123, 125
 Gloddaeth, 51
 Glossary of Welsh words, xxvii
 Glowlyn, 147
 Glyder Vawr and Vach, 92
 Glyn, slate-quarries of, 108
 Glyndwr, Owain, his marriage, 17; Mount of, 22; derivation of the name, 23; his lawsuit with Lord Grey of Ruthin, 23; his manor sold by Henry IV., 23; his encampment on the Dee, 23; relics of, 23; murders Hywel Sele, 137; takes Harlech castle, 145; ousted by Prince Henry, 145; crowned at Machynlleth, 170
 Glyndyvwrdwy stat., 23
 Gobowen stat., 9
 Goch, Owen, his prison, 108
 Gogarth, 50
 Gold, locale of its discovery, xviii, 135
 Golden Grove, 40
 Gorddyn Mawr, 42
 Gored Goch, 57
 Gorphwysfa, 110
 Gredington, 17
 Gresford, 15
 Griffith's Crossing, 97
 Groeslon, 100
 Gryfydd, Dafydd ap, his execution, 6
 Gryfydd, Owain, real name of Owain Glyndwr, 23
 Guilsfield, 161
 Gulls, regularity of their migration, 64
 Gwaenynog, 81
 Gwersylt, 73
 Gwespyr quarries, 40
 Gwrfai, river, 100, 102; valley of the, 120
 Gwrych castle, 42
 Gwryd, river, 111
 Gwyddelwern, 77
 Gwydir House, 87
 Gwydryn, semicircular dyke at, 58
 "Gwylliad Cochion," 141
 Gwytherin, 48
 Gyffin, 85

IDRIS.

H.

Hafod, 174; collection of MSS. at, 174
 Halkin mountain, mining district of, 35, 75
 Hanmer, 17
 Harbour of refuge at Holyhead, 62
 Harlech, 144; ancient fortress, 144; castle, 145; its vicissitudes, 145; antiquities found near, 145; the marsh, 146; conveyances and distances, 146; excursions, 146
 Hawarden, 33; castle, 33; legend of "Harden Jews," 33; distances, 34
 Heights, comparative, of North Welsh mountains, xxix
 Hen Eglwys, 71
 Henfryn, 40
 Hengwrt, MSS. of, 136
 Henllan, 81
 Henry III. at Castle Diganwy, 51
 — VII. at Mathafarn, 170
 —, Matthew, his grave, 31
 Herbert, George, birthplace of, 163
 Heriri Mons, Roman station of, 133
 Hesp Alyn, 75
 Hillbre Island, 40
 Hirnant, river, 130
 Holland Arms stat., 70
 Holt, 15
 Holyhead, 61; harbour, 61; Salt Island, 61; obelisk, 61; church of St. Cybi, 61; harbour of refuge, 62; quarries, 62; telegraph, 62; panorama from the station, 62; Skerries Islands, 63; North Stacks, caverns in, 63; Holyhead mountain, 63; South Stack, 63; the "Stairs," 63; suspension-bridge, 63; lighthouse, 63; caverns of the S. Stack, 63; sea-birds, 63; migration of gulls, 64; mode of taking the eggs, 64; distances, 64
 Holywell stat., 37; town, 37
 Hope, 73
 Hotel accommodation, xxvi

I.

Ial, river, 169
 Idris, giant, legend of, 140

LLANDDEINIOLEN.

Idwal, prince, murder of, 91
 Ievan, Meredydd ap, 89
 Ifan, Davyd ap, his defence of Harlech castle, 145
 Inscribed stones, xx, 59, 77, 95, 105, 107, 108, 144, 148, 149, 153
 Iron manufacture of North Wales, number of furnaces, and their produce, xvii; works, 11, 74

J.

Jefferies, Judge, reputed birthplace, 15
 Johnes, Col., his improvements and collections at Hafod, 174
 Johnson, Dr., at Gwaenynog, 81
 Jorwerth, William ap, his birthplace, 71
 Jubilee Tower, 76

K.

Kentigern, Bishop of Glasgow, founds the see of St. Asaph, 82
 Kerry, 164
 — Hills, 164

L.

Lavan Sands, 48
 Lead-ore, quantity of, raised in North Wales, xviii; mines, 35, 41, 86, 131, 167, 170, 172, 175
 Leaton stat., 9
 Lery, river, 171
 Lisburne, lead-mines of, 175
 Llafar, river, 26, 94
 Llanaber, 149
 Llanafan, 175
 Llanallgo, 69
 Llanarmon in Yale, 78
 Llanasa, 40
 Llanbadarn Vawr, 167
 Llanbadrig, 72
 Llanbeblig, 120
 Llanbedr, 77, 79, 146
 Llanbedr-Goch, 69
 Llanberis, 109; geology of, 110
 —, pass of, 110
 —, ascent of Snowdon from, 113
 Llanbrynmair, 169
 Llan-y-cil, 26
 Llancynfelin, 171
 Llandanwg, 146
 Llanddeiniolen, 54

LLANDDWYN.

Llanddwyn, 60
 Llanddwywe, 148
 Llandewyn, 133, 144
 Llandegai, 48, 53, 94
 Llandeglan, 64
 Llandegla, well of, 78
 Llanderfel, 24
 Llandinam, 165
 Llandonna, 69
 Llandrillo, 131
 — yn-Rhos, 51
 Llandrinio, 160
 Llandudno, 49; excursions from, 50; distances, 51
 Llandulas, 42
 Llandwrog, 102
 Llandyfnan, 69
 Llandyrnog, 79
 Llandysilio, 55, 160
 Llandedwen, 58
 Llanegryn, 151
 Llanellhaiarn, 103
 Llanellian, 42, 72
 —, cursing-well of, 42
 Llanelltyd, 135
 Llanellwy, 82
 Llanenddwyn, 148
 Llanengan, 107
 Llanerchymedd, 71
 Llanertyl, 157
 Llaneugrad, 69
 Llanfachreth, 138
 Llanfaelog, 60
 Llanfaelrhys, 107
 Llanfaes Friary, 66
 Llanfaglan, 102
 Llanfair, 57, 146
 — Caer Einion, 157
 — Dyffryn Clwyd, 77
 Llanfairfechan, 47
 Llanfair Isgaer, 97
 — mathafarn-eithaf, 69
 — yn-Newbwell, 60
 — pwll-y-gwngyll, 57
 — Talhaiarn, 48
 Llanfechan, 159
 Llanfechell, 72
 Llanferres, 77
 Llanffinan, 59
 Llanfihangel Tre'r Beirdd, 71
 Llanfrothen, 124
 Llanfwrog, 79
 Llanfyllin, 159
 Llangadfan, 158
 Llangadwaladr, 59
 Llangalfio, 59
 Llangar, 24
 Llangedwyn, 156
 Llangefni, 70
 Llangelynn, 151
 Llangerniw, 48
 Llangian, 107
 Llangoed, 69

LLECH.

Llangollen, Vale of, 11, 18
 —, town of, 19; its patron saint, 19; ladies of, 19; neighbourhood, 20; distances, 20
 Llangower, 26
 Llangristiolus, 70
 Llangurig, 166
 Llangwnadl, 106
 Llangwyfan, 59
 Llangwyfen, 79
 Llangwyllog, 71
 Llangybi, 104
 Llangynhaval, singular custom at, 79
 Llangynnog, 131; lead-mines and slate-quarry, 131
 Llangynyw, 157
 Llanidan, 58
 Llanidloes, 155, 165; church, 165; conveyances and distances, 166
 Llanistyn, 69
 Llan-llciaia, 72
 Llanllugan, 157
 Llanllyfni, 101
 Llan-y-Mowddwy, 142
 Llan-y-mynach, 159
 Llanor, 105
 Llanrhadr, 79
 Llanrhadr-yn-Mochnant, 132
 Llanrhewchwyn, 87
 Llanrhydd, 78
 Llanrug, 108
 Llanrwst, 87; conveyances and distances, 88; excursion, 88
 Llansadwrn, 69
 Llansannan, 48, 81
 Llansantraid, 23, 85, 157, 159
 — Glan Conway, 85
 Llansilin, 133
 Llantrissant, 60
 Llantysilio, vale and village, 22
 Llanwchellyn, 26, 143
 Llanvair-cwmwd, 60
 Llanvihangel, 69; stat., 171
 — Esgelfog, 70
 — gen'eu'r glynn, 171
 — y-Pennant, 151
 — y-Praethau, 144
 Llanvor, 24
 Llanwenllyso, 70
 Llangwilog, 71
 Llanwnda, 100, 102
 Llanwrin, 170
 Llanymblodwel, 156
 Llanychan, 79
 Llan-y-eil, 26
 Llanymynach Hill, 156, 159
 Llanystumdwy, 143
 Llech, cavern of, 50

LLYN.

Llech Idrls, 134
 Llechog, 114
 Lledr, river, 89
 Lleiniog, castle, 67
 Llewelyn, residence of, 59
 — and his hound Gelert, story of, 122
 —, earnedd, 47, 90
 Llewelyn's Kitchen, 47
 Llewenny, 81
 Lleyn, 106
 Llong, 74
 Lloyd, family of, 146
 —, Bishop of St. Asaph, his birthplace, 60
 —, Griffin, inscription on, 87
 Llugwy, river, 88, 90
 Llwyd, Gryfydd, birthplace of, 71
 Llwydiarth, 71
 Llwyngwril, 151
 Llyfni river, 102
 Llynant, river, 166, 170
 Llyn-yr-Adar, 119
 — ar-afon, 47
 — Aled, 95
 — Alwen, 96
 — Aran, 140
 — d'er Arddu, 113
 — Arenig Vach, 130
 — — Vawr, 130
 — Bochlwyd, 92
 — Bodllyn, 148
 — Bodric, 60
 — Bugeilyn, 154, 170
 — y-Cae, 139, 152
 — Caws, 133
 Llyncllys, 159
 Llyn Conway, 129
 — Coron, 59
 — Crafnant, 86
 — Cregenau, 151
 — Cwellyn, 101, 120; ascent of Snowden from, 115
 — Cwlyd, 86
 — Cwmlymon, 111
 — Cynwch, 138
 — y-Ddinas, 119
 — Dulyn, 86, 148
 — Dwythwch, 113
 — Dywarchen, and its floating island, 101
 — Ebyr, 165
 — Edno, 119
 — Eiddew, 147
 — — Mawr, 147
 — — Vach, 147
 — Elglau, 86
 — y-gader, 101, 121, 138
 — Gelrionydd, 86
 — Gwynant, 111, 118
 — Howell, 148
 — Idwal, 91; fables respecting it, 91; botany of

LLYN.

- its neighbourhood, 92;
former glaciers and moraines of, 92
Llyn Irddyn, 148
— Llagi, 119
— Llydaw, 111, 112, 115
— y-Manod, 127
— Morwynion, 129, 147
Llyniau Mymbyr, 111
— Nant-y-llef, 100
Llyn-yr-Ogo, waterfall, 49
— Ogwen, 91
— Padarn, 108
— y-pandu lead-mine, 75
— Penrhaiadr, 170
— Peris, 108
— Tecwyn, 133
— — Uchaf, 144
— — Isaf, 144
— Tegid (Bala Lake), 25;
tradition concerning, 25;
inundation of, 26; fish of, 26
— Teyrn, 115
— Trigraienyn, legend of, 140
— Tryweryn, 130
Llys Bradwen, remains of, 150
— Dinorwig, 54
— Eurian, 51
Llywarch Hen, burial-place of, 24
Loggerheads Inn, 76
Long Mountain, 162
Loton, 167
Lyffni, river, 102
Lysfaen Hill, 42

M.

- Machno, river, 95, 129
—, falls of, 95
Machynlleth, 154, 170; stat., 169; Owain Glyndwr crowned at, 170; flannel manufacture, 170; neighbourhood, 170; conveyances and distances, 171
Maddocks, Mr., his improvements in Traeth Mawr level, 124
Madoc, Gruffydd ap, his refuge, 20
Maelor, Madoc ap Gruffydd, founder of Valle Crucis Abbey, 20
Maelor Saesneg, 13
Maen Achwyfan, 40
— Arthur, 76
— Morddwydd, 58
Maentwrog, 133
Maes-y-gaer, 47
Maes-y-garmon, battle of, 74
Maglona, site of, 154, 170

MOUNTAIN.

- Malldraeth, river of the, 59
— marsh, 70
Mallwyd, 158
Manods, mountains, 127
Manufactures of North Wales, xvii
Margaret of Anjou at Harlech, 145
Mathafarn, 170
Maw, river, 149
Mawddach, river, 135, 149
Mediolanum, Roman station, 157
Meifod, 157
Melynlllyn, 86
Menai Straits, 54
— suspension bridge, 54
— tubular bridge, 55
Menai Bridge to Amlwch, 64
Merddwr, river, 95
Minera, mining district of, 15
Minffordd, 140, 152
Moat, the, 162
Moat Lane, 165, 168
Mochras, 148
Moel Arthur, British post of, 75
— y-Dolwen, 158
— y-don, 54, 58, 97
— Eithwrog, 77
— Fammau, 76
— Ffenlli, 76
Moelfre, 46
Moel-y-gaer, British fortress at, 35, 171
— y-Gamelin, 22
— y-garn, British post of, 76
— y-giw, 77
— Goedog, 146
— y-golfa, 168
— Hebog, 121, 122
— Orthwm, 137
— Siabod, 88, 111
— y-Wyddfa, 112
Moelwyn, 127
Moelydon, 97
Mold, 74; battle near, 74; distances, 75
Mona copper-mine, 71
Monacella, St., legend of, 132
Montgomery, 162; castle, 163; British camp, 163; church, 163; distances, 163
Montgomeryshire canal, 160
Moreton, 159
Morfa Harlech, 144, 146; Dr. Lloyd's theory of, 146
Morfa Rhuddlan, battle of, 85
Mostyn, 39
— Hall, 39
— Quay, 40
Mountain ranges of North Wales, v

OGWEN.

- Mountains, comparative heights of, xxix
Mule, river, 164
Myddleton family, seat of, 81
—, Sir Hugh, 80
Mynach river, 173
Mynydd Hiraethrog, 96
— Llwydiarth, 69
Mytton, Gen., takes Shrewsbury, 3; Ruthin castle besieged by, 77; takes Denbigh castle, 79; conquers at Llandegai, 94; invests Harlech, 145

N.

- Nannau, 137; legend connected with, 137
Nannerch, 75
Nant-y-Belan, 11
— col, 146
— Ffrancon, 92
— clwyd, 77
— glyn, 81
— y-gwryd, valley of, 111
— Gwynant, vale of, 111
— Gwyrtheyrn, 104
Nantlle, 101
Nant Mill, 120
Nant Ysgolion waterfall, 169
Nerquis Hall, planting experiments at, 74
Nevin, 105
Newborough, 60
New Inn, 22
Newmarket, 40
Newtown, 164; flannel manufacture, 164; ancient church, 164; conveyances and distances, 165
— Hall, 165
North Wales: physical features, v; geology, xi; commerce and manufactures, xvii; antiquarian view, xix; communications, travelling, xxiv; glossary of Welsh words, xxvii; points of interest for the geologist, xxviii; comparative heights of mountains, xxix; chief places of interest, xxix; skeleton routes and tours, xxxiii
Northop, 34

O.

- Offa's Dyke, xx, 9, 17, 73, 155, 156, 157, 160, 162, 163
Ogwen river, 48, 90, 92

ORME.

Orme's Head, Great and Little, 49
 Oswald, St., King of Northumberland, his death and canonisation, 155
 Oswestry, 155; derivation of its name, 155; St. Oswald's well, 155; Old Oswestry, British post, 156; distances and conveyances, 156
 — to Aberystwith, 159
 — to Machynlleth, 155
 Overton, 13
 Owen family, seat of, 81
 —, Baron, murdered, 142
 —, Sir John, condemned and pardoned, 125
 —, Robert, his birthplace, 165

P.

Padarn, St., 167
 Padeswood, 73
 Pantasa, 40
 Pantdrainog, 94
 Parc-y-meirch, 84
 Parkgate, 35
 Parnell, poet, his grave, 31
 Parson's Bridge, 174
 Parwyd, 106
 Parys Mountain, copper-mines of, 71
 Penbedw Hall, British remains at, 75
 Penegoes, 170
 Pengwern, 20
 Penmaen Bach, 46
 Penmaenmawr, 46
 Penmaen Rhos, tunnel of, 42
 Penmachno, 129
 Penmon Priory, 67
 Penmorfa, 125
 Penmynydd, 58
 Pennal, 154
 Pennant, his residence at Downing, 39
 — Melangell, 132; singular church and legend of St. Monacella, 132
 — yr, 141
 Penrhos Llugwy, 69
 Penrhyn castle, 53
 — slate-quarries, 93; mode of working, 93; sizes and names of slates, 93; prices, 94; quantities exported, 94
 — promontory, 143
 — Deudraeth, 144
 Pensarn, 70, 148
 Penstrowed, 168
 Pentraeth, 69
 Pentrevoelas, 95
 Penybont, 132

PORT.

Pen-y-Castell, 157
 Pen-y-dinas, British fortress, 50, 149
 Pen-y-gader, 139
 Penygaer, British post of, 96
 Penygroes, 100
 Pen-y-grog-pren, entrenched camp of, 155
 Penygwryd, 111
 — to Beddgelert, 118
 Perthi-Duon, cromlech at, 58
 Physical features of North Wales, v
 Pimblemere (Bala lake), 25
 Piozzi, Mrs., at Gwaenynog, 81; her residence at Brynbella, 82; her birthplace, 105
 Pistyll, granite-quarry near, 104
 Pistyll Caln, waterfall, 135
 Pistyll-y-Llyn, waterfall at, 170
 Pistyll Rhaiadr, waterfall, 132
 Pitt's Head, 121
 Plas Clough, 81
 Plas Coch, 57
 Plasgwyn, 57, 69
 Plas Mawr, 45
 Plas Newydd, seat of Marquis of Anglesea, 57
 Plas Newydd, residence of the "ladies of Llangollen," 19
 Plas Penmynydd, 59
 Plas Rhiwaeog, battle of, 130
 Plas Tan-y-bwlch, 126
 Plinlymmon, 166
 Point Elianus, 72
 Ponsonby, Miss, her retreat at Llangollen, 19
 Pont Aberglaslyn, 123
 Pont-yr-allt-goch, 83
 Pont-y-cim, 102
 Pont-cysylltau aqueduct, 17
 Pontddu, 150
 Pontdolgoch, 169
 Pont Erwyd, 166
 Pont-Fallwyd waterfall, 158
 Pont Glyn Dffwys, 96
 Pont Llandorfel, 24
 Pont Llythant, 171
 Pontnewydd, 102
 Pont-y-pair, 88
 Pont-rhyd-y-groes, 175
 Pont-rhyd-ddu, 121
 Pont-rhyddu, 101
 Pont Rullyd, 81
 Pontygwiddel, 48
 Pool Park, antiquities at, 77
 Pool Quay, 160
 Port Dnorig, 97
 Port Penrhyn, 53

RHIW.

Porthamel, 58, 97
 Porth-Dinlleyn, 105
 Porthllongddu, 69
 Porthmadoc, 125, 143
 — to Ffestiniog Quarries, 126
 Porth Nigel, 107
 Powis Castle, 161
 Prestatyn, 40
 Prynne, Will., imprisoned at Caernarvon, 99
 Prys, Archdeacon, 146
 Pryse, Sir John, and his three wives, 165
 Puffin Island, 51, 68
 Pwll-fanog, 57
 Pwllheli, 104; harbour, 105; distances and conveyance, 105
 — to Bardsey Island, 103
 — to Dolgelly, 143
 Pwlycrochan, 43

Q.

Queensferry, 33

R.

Railways, xxiv: Great Western, 2; Whitchurch and Oswestry, 16; St. George's Harbour, 49; Holyhead, 51; Anglesea Central, 70; Chester and Holyhead, 73; Corwen and Rhyl, 77; vale of Clwyd, 81; Cambrian, 143; Manchester and Milford Haven, 159; Shrewsbury and Welshpool, 167
 Raven waterfall, 133
 Rea valley, 167
 Rednall stat., 9
 Redwharf bay, 69
 Remains, Roman, 8, 27, 58, 85, 89, 100, 102, 134, 169
 Rhaiadr, river, 132
 — Cwm, 129
 — Ddu, waterfall, 133, 135
 — Mawddach, waterfall, 135
 — Mawr, waterfall, 49
 — y-Wenol, 89
 Rheidol, river, 166, 167, 171, 173, 174
 Rhewl, 79
 Rhiw, village, 107
 —, river, 157; waterfall of the, 163
 Rhiwbriwdir, slate-quarries of, 127
 Rhiw-goch, 134

RHOSCOLYN.

Rhoscolyn, 64
 Rhuddlan stat., 84; castle of, 84; ruins of priory, 84; village, 85; battle near, 85
 Rhydfach, river, 133
 Rhyd-y-fen, 130
 Rhyd-y-pennau, 171
 Rhyd-yr-onen stat., 152
 Rhyl, 41
 Richard II., at Flint, 36; place of his capture, 42; at Rhuddlan castle, 84
 Roads traversed by coaches, xxiv
 Rocking-stones, 50, 54, 71
 Roderic the Great, residence of, 59
 Rodney's Pillar, 168
 Roman roads, xxi
 Rossett stat., 15
 Rowlands, Rev. H., birth-place, 57
 Royal Charter, wreck of the, 69
 Ruabon station and village, 12
 — junct. to Dolgelley, 17
 Rug, 24; relics of Owain Glyndwr at, 24
 Ruthin, 77; castle, 77; church, 78; cloisters, 78; distances, 78; excursions, 78
 Rutunium, supposed site of, 9
 Ruyton, 9

S.

Saltney, 16
 Sarn Badrig, legend concerning, 149
 — y-bwch, 152
 — Helen, 89, 100, 129, 133
 — Hwlcin, 40
 — Meylltarn, 106
 — Swsan, 169
 Segontium, 97; site of, 100
 Seiont, river, 97, 99, 102, 108, 120
 Selattyn, 9
 Sele, Hywel, murdered by Owain Glyndwr, 137
 Severn river, 8, 160, 162, 163, 164, 165; source of, 154, 165, 166, 167, 168
 Shakerley, Col., 73
 Shelton, 167
 Shrewsbury, 2; early history, 2; bridges, 3; castle, 3; walls, 3; churches, 3; monastic remains, 5; school, 5; ancient houses, 6; public buildings, 6; monuments, 6; yearly pageant, 7; railways, 7; distances, 7

TALARGOCH.

Shrewsbury to Chester, 2
 — to Aberystwith, 167
 Siambr Wen, 41
 Silver, produce of, in North Wales, xviii; mines, 35
 Skeleton routes and tours, xxxiii
 Skerries Islands, 63
 Skinner, Capt., obelisk to his memory, 61
 Slate-quarries of North Wales, their product, xix; at Penrhyn, 93; of Glyn, 108; of Dinorwig, 109; of Rhiwbriwdir, 127; of the Manods, 127; near Llangynnog, 131; of the Corris, 140
 Snowdon, 112; its physical features and divisions, 112; ascent of, from Llanberis, 113; from Beddgelert, 114; from Llyn Cwellyn, 115; from Capel Curig, 115; hotels on the summit, 116; views from, 116; present and former state of the district, 116; geology of the mountain, 117; botany, 117
 Soughton, 75
 Spirits' Hollow Tree, legend of, 137
 Stacks, North, 63; South, 63
 Stanley embankment, 61
 Starr, Rev. H., scene of his death, 115
 Stations, Roman, xxi, 8, 9, 13, 27, 76, 85, 97, 133, 154, 157, 170
 Steddfa Gurig, 166
 Stewart, Walter, ancestor of the Stuarts, his birthplace, 59
 Stone circles, 40, 46, 54, 75, 77, 146, 171, 157
 Strata Marcella, former abbey of, 160
 Strongbow, Gilbert de, seizes the lands of Cadwgan ap Bleddyn, 172
 Suetonius, place of his landing, 58
 Swallow waterfall, 89
 Swift, Dean, at Penmaenmawr, 46
 Swsan, queen, legend of, 168
 Sychnant, glen of, 46

T.

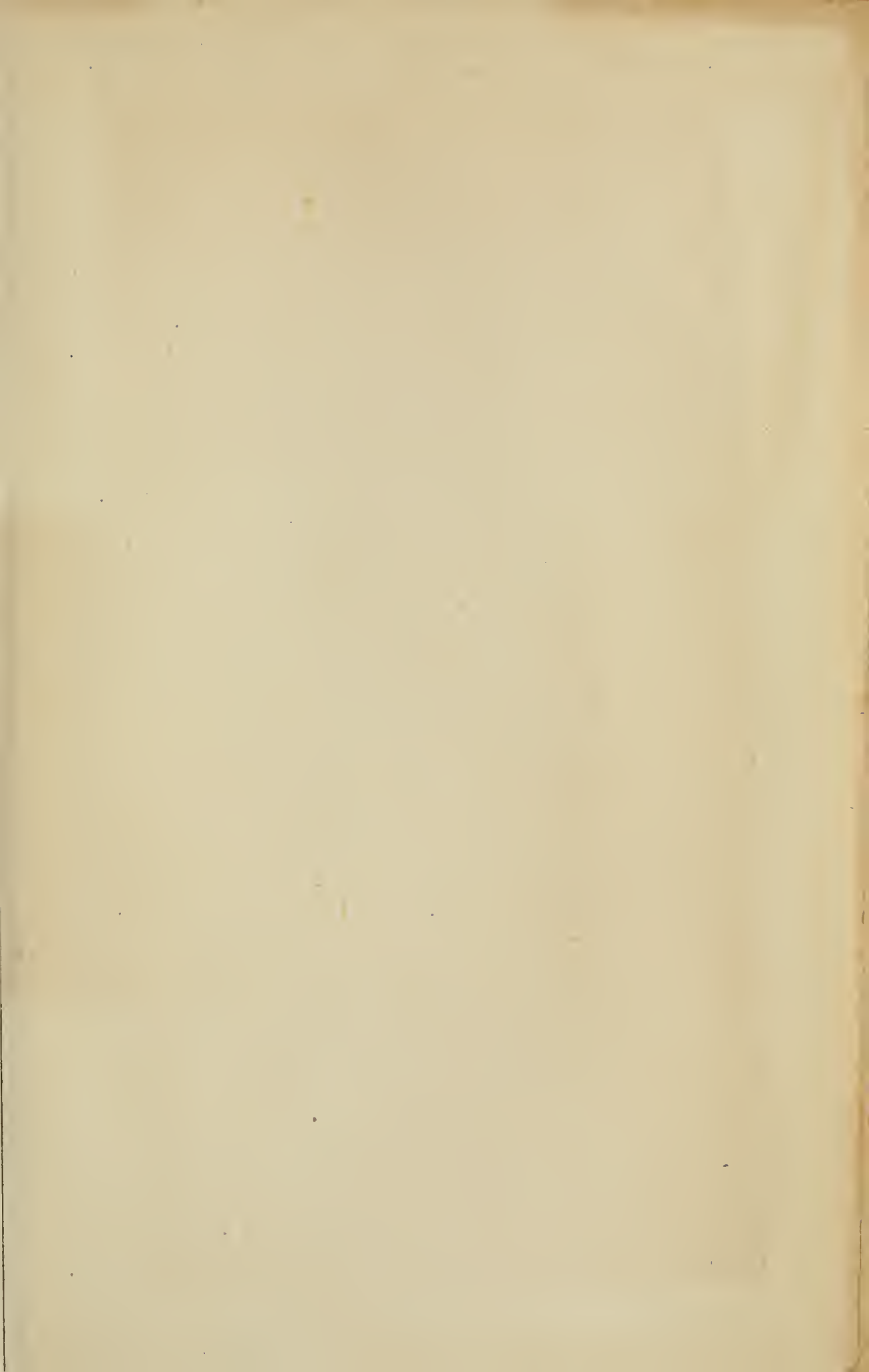
Tafarn-helig, 133
 Tafolog, river, 158
 Talacre, 40
 Talargoch lead-mine, 41

TUMULI.

Talerddig, 169
 Taliesin, poet, residence of, 86; his supposed burial-place, 171
 Tallyn, 60
 Talybont, 171
 Tal-y-cafn, 85
 Tal-y-foel, 58
 Tal-y-Llyn, 151
 Talysarnau, 144
 Tanat, river, 131, 132, 156
 Tangbwllch, 126
 — to Oswestry, 128
 — to Machynlleth, 133
 Tan-y-grisiau, 127
 Taranon, hill, geology of, 155
 — vale, 165; river, 168
 Tern, river, 8
 Thackeray, Dr., his experiments in planting, 74
 Thrale, Mrs. *See* Piozzi
 Tomen-y-fardre, tumulus, 79
 Tomen-y-rhodwy, tumulus, 78
 Torrent Walk, 138
 Tourist, chief places of interest to the, xxix
 Tower, residence near Mold, tragical occurrence in, 74
 Towyn, 153; St. Cadfan's Stone, 153; conveyances and distances, 153
 Traeth Bach, 126, 143
 — Mawr, 124, 143
 Travelling in North Wales xxiv
 Trawsfynydd, 133
 Trefeglwys, 166
 Trefnant, 82
 Trefonen, 156
 Trefriw, 86
 Tregaiian, 71
 Tregarnedd, 70
 Tremadoc, 124; geology of the country around, 125; conveyances and distances, 126
 Tremeirchion, 82
 Tre'r Caeri, early fortified town of, 104
 — castell, 67
 — Ddol, 171
 — Driw, 58
 Tre Taliesin, 171
 Trevor family, 10
 — stat. and hall, 18
 Trifaen, 92
 Trystiau, glen of the, 24
 Tryweryn, river, 25, 129, 130
 Tudor, Catherine, story of her marriages, 81
 —, Owen, birthplace of, 59
 Tudweillog, 106
 Tumuli, xx

TWLLDDU.	WILSON.	YSTWITH.
Twllddu, 91 Twrch, river, 26, 142, 158 Twymyn, river, 155, 158; water-falls of, 169 Tycroes, 60 Tyn-y-cornel, 152 — y-groes, 135 Ty-yn-Rhyl, 41	of, 104; his retirement on Dinas Emrys, 119 Voryd river, 42 Vyrnwy, river, 131, 157, 160, 167	Winifred, St., well of, 38; legend of, 38 Wnion, river, 26, 150 Woolaston, 168 Wrexham, 14 Wroxeter, 8 Wye, river, 166 Wynn, family of, 87 Wynnstay, 12
U.	W.	Y.
Ur-iconium, remains of, 8	Wardle, Col., residence of, 73 Waterfalls, 47, 49, 86, 89, 92, 95, 133, 135, 142, 158, 163, 170, 173, 174, 175, 192 Waterloo Bridge, 88 — Tower, 11 Watt's Dyke, xxi, 9, 37, 155 Welchampton stat., 17 Welshpool, 160, 168; church, 160; castle, 161; convey- ances, 161; distances, 161 Wepre brook, 34 Wheeler, river, 81 Whitchurch, 80; junct., 17 Whitford, 40 Whittington junct., 9 — junct. to Whitchurch junct., 16 Wilson the painter, birthplace of, 170; his grave, 76	Ynys-y-Brawd, 149 — Halen, 61 — Hettws, 110 — Maengwyn, 152 — y-moch, 54 — Seiriol, 68 Ynyslas, 171 Yr Hen Gear, encampment at, 171 Yr Orsedd, 40 Ysceifiog, 75 Ysgethin, river, 148 Ysptyty Cynsyn, 174 — Evan, 129 Ystwith, river, 171, 174, 175
V.		
Valle Crucis Abbey, 20 Valley, 60 Vaughans, ancient family seat of, 148 Vaynol, 96 Vaynor, 163 Viaduct, railway, across the Dee valley, 11, 17 Vigra mountain, copper-mine of, 150 Vitalis, Ordericus, birthplace, 8 Vortigern, last resting-place		

THE END.



UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA LIBRARY,
BERKELEY

THIS BOOK IS DUE ON THE LAST DATE
STAMPED BELOW

Books not returned on time are subject to a fine of
50c per volume after the third day overdue, increasing
to \$1.00 per volume after the sixth day. Books not in
demand may be renewed if application is made before
expiration of loan period.

DEC 19 1929

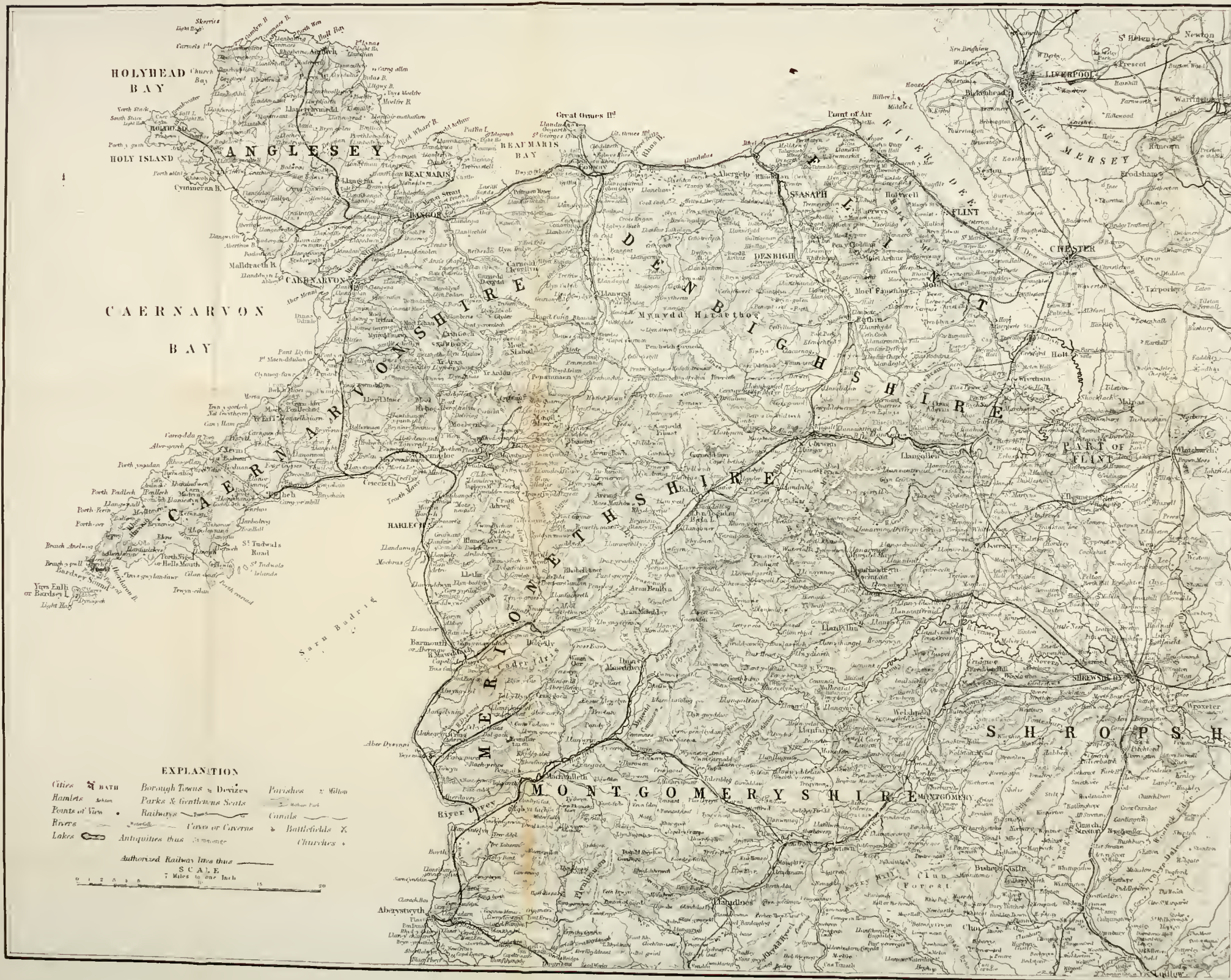
APR 16 1966 8 9

IN STACKS

17 2 966

JUN 9 '66 7 3R 60

HANDBOOK MAP OF NORTH WALES.



UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA LIBRARY,
BERKELEY

THIS BOOK IS DUE ON THE LAST DATE
STAMPED BELOW

Books not returned on time are subject to a fine of
50c per volume after the third day overdue, increasing
to \$1.00 per volume after the sixth day. Books not in
demand may be renewed if application is made before
expiration of loan period.

DEC 10 1929

APR 16 1966 8 9

IN STACKS

JUN 2 1966

JUN 9 '66 73R 80

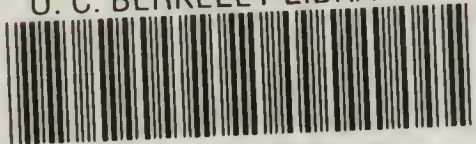
3825

DA 7

176

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA LIBRARY

U. C. BERKELEY LIBRARIES



C051139462

